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TRIAL BY JURY IN BRITISH INDIA.

IN the year 1822, an inquiry was set on foot, at the instance of a Committee appointed for revising the Regulations under the presidency of Bombay, regarding the expediency of introducing the system of trial by jury, in criminal cases, amongst the natives in the provinces subject to that government. The Committee drew up a series of questions to be proposed to the several judicial authorities; and as the Governor in Council took considerable interest in the subject, the opinion of several individuals, besides the zillah judges, were taken on the queries propounded by the Regulation-Committee. The arguments employed by those individuals, whether adverse or favourable to the measure, were not restricted by local considerations, but appear generally applicable to the natives of India in the aggregate: a compendious view of the arguments and the several answers, taken from the records at the East-India House, printed in the Bombay Judicial Selections,* will, therefore, supply a desideratum on this question;—a question often discussed but ill-understood.

The criminal judge of Broach (Mr. Kentish) is of opinion that the appointment of judicial assessors or jurymen amongst the natives would, in its general effects, tend to impede the pure and prompt administration of justice, owing to the total want of ability, judgment, and integrity in the natives to discharge the functions of jurymen. The measure would, he conceives, be hostile to the general feelings of the community, from the universal indolence and retired habits of the people. They place so little confidence in each other, and hold the decisions of Europeans in such high estimation, that he believes the measure would not increase their regard for our administration of criminal justice. In the constitution of a native jury, great difficulties would arise: if the members were of the same caste with the prisoner, there would be partiality or prejudice; if they were of a different caste, general indifference or unfavourable bias would deprive the prisoner of a fair and impartial trial; and were the jury formed promiscuously from natives of every description, his guilt or innocence would be lost sight of amidst their feuds and animosities, engendered by the annihilation of caste-distinctions. He doubts, indeed, whether different castes would willingly associate with each other on a jury, and compulsory measures would be construed into an attack on their customs. He concludes that, as the respectable natives are extremely averse to appearing in courts of justice, or in any public proceeding, it would be found very difficult to prevent improper persons from being returned to serve on juries.

The judge at Surat (Mr. Anderson) is unfavourable to the measure on the following grounds:—The chief obstacle to the trial by jury in India arises from the character of the natives, their general way of thinking, their want of education, their prejudices, and, above all, their disregard of truth and want of principle. Their religious feelings would create difficulties; the influence arising from caste and family would, from its power and extent, considerably affect the fairness of the trial. The natives generally are little capable of judging of the effects of evidence, of connecting a chain of reasoning when the case is unusual or intricate. The oath, by which a jurymen is bound, would have a slight effect upon a native, who has little value for truth; whilst his proneness to bribery and corruption is another and a fatal objection to the scheme. Another cause which would prevent natives from being good jurymen is their apprehension of animosity from a person, or his family, against whom

* Selection of Papers, &c. vol. iv. pp. 870—926.

whom they might give a verdict. The argument drawn from the experience of punchayets is inconclusive: "no two modes of trial can more differ than an Indian punchayet and a British jury." On one point, Mr. Anderson is decidedly at issue with Mr. Kentish. In answer to the question whether it would be practicable to place Mahomedans and Hindoos on the same jury, Mr. Anderson says: "I think it would be practicable and desirable." Mr. Kentish says: "Independent of the almost impracticability of the measure, I think it would, under no circumstances, be advisable to allow of an intermixture of Hindoos and Mahomedans on a native jury."

The judge in the Southern Concan (Mr. Hale) is an advocate for the plan, "under a strong impression that the effects of its institution would, though perhaps not immediately efficacious, yet in the end be beneficial;" and that "any temporary evil to be apprehended is on the whole overbalanced by the prospect of future benefits to the community." He recommends, however, that the number of jurymen be limited to *five*, the number of a punchayet, and that the expedient should commence (with reference to his own zillah) with a selection from the Brahmin caste for the trial of *all* Hindoos. This plan, he says, affords the only prospect of obtaining men of education and ability fit for the duty; for, "it is obvious that the system at home, of trying the prisoner by his equals, would never answer in this country." He does not think it desirable that Brahmins and Mahomedans should be empanelled together, though it might be done with other castes of Hindoos and Mahomedans; but he recommends that Mahomedans should be tried by the most respectable of their own sect. He suggests that the native jury should merely find whether the act or deed charged had been committed by the prisoner, without designating the crime; and he assigns this reason: "there are cases where a prisoner guilty of robbery or murder would be pronounced innocent by a Mahomedan jury." Mr. Hale considers it essential to the success of the measure that the jury should be paid for their time and services, as few, if any, natives would feel sufficient interest in such a duty to perform it gratuitously. He confesses that the principal danger to the measure arises from the difficulty of a native jury withstanding the influence of an individual of their own rank and caste. Instances would abound where all the innumerable petty contrivances and intrigues, for which the natives are so notorious, would be put in practice to sway and mislead, to bribe and corrupt, the jury: "all the influence," he adds, "arising from connexion, relationship, caste, or wealth, would be put in force in the prisoner's favour, and it would be placing more confidence in the integrity of natives of any caste than I am inclined to do, to say that such arguments would not oftener succeed than prove abortive."

The judge in the Northern Concan (Mr. Baillie) is of opinion that the trial by jury amongst the native population never can be introduced either with effect or advantage. From the superior confidence the generality of the natives place in Europeans, in comparison with their own castes, he is convinced that prisoners would much rather that their cases should be investigated by an English judge, unassisted by any natives, than by a native jury composed of the most respectable men. He concludes: "The apathy and want of energy in most natives are so great, and the little interest that they take in any thing but what actually concerns themselves is so observable, that I think the very circumstance of their being liable to serve on a jury, instead of being looked upon as an advantage, and as securing to them (if not abused) an impartial decision, would by them be viewed as a hardship, and an act of oppression ;

oppression; for, even as witnesses, it is compulsion alone which can bring them forward, and it would therefore appear to them additional severity to be obliged to sit on the same business for days and days together, without remuneration; and I very much doubt whether the attention of the members of a jury would be fixed to the points under examination, unless actuated by private and improper motives."

The judge at Kaira (Mr. De Vitre) conceives that native juries, "instead of assisting would very seriously impede the trial of criminal cases; and that, in various ways, from their deplorable deficiency in integrity of character, such a mode of trial would be highly objectionable." The measure, he thinks, would be far from agreeable to the natives; and the evils it would lead to, instead of diminishing, would in the course of time increase. None of the castes, he says, would convict one of their own body; and there are so many religious and other strong objections to persons of different castes acting together as jurymen, that it is next to impossible to form a jury that would be at all efficient. The conclusion of Mr. De Vitre's answers is as follows: "I think it neither practicable for juries to be efficiently introduced, nor advisable that the attempt should be made. Castes and divisions in castes are of themselves almost insuperable objections to the practice ever being introduced with good effect; there are besides religious feelings and prejudices of many descriptions to be taken into consideration, all operating unfavourably to the introduction of such a mode of trial, to say nothing of the notoriously woeful ignorance and deficiency in integrity of character in the people generally. In short, the duties of jurymen appear to me to be far beyond the comprehension and character of the natives, as possessing none of those benefits of education, independence, or integrity of character, or enlightened or liberal ideas, so essentially requisite in persons filling such responsible situations."

Mr. Jones, criminal judge at —, conceives that the institution of a jury would be attended with the best effects. He has always considered the mode of conducting the administration of criminal justice in India to be extremely defective. The criminal judge first appears as the accuser of the prisoner, he then proceeds to try him, and lastly to punish him. The introduction of a jury would take away the most dangerous of these powers; and the odium, now incurred by the judge, would be transferred to the jury. Another advantage would be, that the really guilty would have less chance of escape, and the innocent less chance of condemnation; because the true merits of a case, and the motives which lead a man to accuse another wrongfully, must be much better felt and understood by a jury of natives than by an English judge. The only ill-effect to be apprehended, in his opinion, arises from the obsequiousness of the native disposition, which would render a jury a dangerous weapon in the hands of a wicked judge. He says: "I have so little reliance upon the probity or independent spirit of the natives in general, that I feel convinced they would seldom, if ever, act in opposition to what they considered to be the wish, or even the opinion, of the judge." He thinks that the jury might be so formed as to afford an efficient safeguard against another serious objection, which would otherwise be insuperable; namely, the want of integrity amongst the natives, which is almost universally admitted. If the jury, he observes, were to be composed of men of the same caste with the person to be tried, the bias in his favour, owing to connexions, relationship, and also the honour of the caste itself, would preponderate, and in frequent cases ensure the acquittal of the prisoner.

The judges of the court of *Sudder Adawlut* do not concur in opinion as to

the expediency of the introduction of trial by jury, in native criminal cases. The chief judge (Mr. Romer) observes that there is such an immense distance between the principal institutions, and the manners, feelings, and prejudices of the communities, in England and India, that there is no warrant for expecting that the trial by jury, which has required the experience of ages to perfect in England, would produce any good fruits among the natives of India. Though it may not be easy, he says, to point out any positive evil which would follow its introduction, it is more difficult to show the grounds for expecting any probable good to result from it.

The second judge of the court (Mr. Sutherland) differs in opinion upon this question from his colleagues. He considers that the introduction of trial by jury in criminal cases would be attended with the best effects; that criminals would be more easily convicted by a jury of their own countrymen, who would be better able to appreciate their characters, as well as that of the witnesses, than a single judge; and that the jury system would tend to disseminate more widely a knowledge of the constitution by which the country is governed, especially in respect to the judicial administration, by means of the opinions and discussions to which the employment of natives as jurors would give rise. He anticipates no ill effects from the introduction of juries, "save what may arise from the acknowledged want of integrity in the native character, which is to be considered as the only obstacle." This grand moral defect, however, he adds, can hardly be called into action unless from interested motives; and, though open to suspicion of corruption individually, it would, he thinks, be too much to suppose that, in a community however bad, a jury promiscuously chosen, and acting under proper restrictions, would be swayed in their verdict by vicious motives alone. He is aware that "in punchayets, or arbitrations of matters of a civil description, the natives do not place confidence in each other, and when they do, hardly ever fail to regret it." He confesses, notwithstanding, that he feels warmly in favour of juries, as time, he thinks, will remove the evil effects adverted to, and "in all likelihood, prove the engine, assisted by sound education, of improving the character of the people generally for integrity, and give them settled notions of rectitude that are at present too loose."

The third judge (Mr. Ironside) coincides with the chief judge, and, after mature reflection and consideration, declares his opinion to be hostile to the introduction of trial by jury, "as being in every respect unsuited to the genius, habits and feelings of the people, and from an apprehension that, so far from the ends of justice being attained, as is now almost universally the case under our own existing system, the very reverse is to be anticipated in the administration of criminal justice, were so novel and hazardous a measure to be ultimately adopted."

The fourth judge (Mr. Barnard) is opposed to the measure. He considers that the general effects of it would be a total want of discrimination as well as impartiality in the verdicts; that until the Indian mind underwent an entire change the evils would continue to exist, as at first, in the greatest possible degree; that those natives concerned in the measure only on public grounds would be strongly averse to it, regarding it as an abandonment of justice, and a proof that the government was indifferent to their welfare, whilst those only would like the employment of jurors who gained a salary by it, and for no other reason. The jury system, he conceives, would puzzle the natives rather than make them better acquainted with our principles of administration, which are at present simple and well understood. He adds: "however paradoxical it

may appear, my opinion is that if juries were to be adopted, the fittest persons to discharge the duties would be the least civilized and most ignorant; these of course would be of the lowest caste. They are not deficient in shrewdness, and their habits have not produced so great a degree of habitual involuntary partiality towards various classes, acts, sentiments, &c. as exists in those whose minds have been more practised. But neither the ignorant nor cultivated minds possess any qualities to render them eligible to decide on any degree of guilt whatever."

The foregoing are opinions of judicial officers: those which follow are the sentiments of individuals free from any supposed partiality towards the existing system, which might be attributed to those who have been long habituated, and therefore attached, to its forms.

Mr. Chaplin, the Commissioner in the Deccan, states that the institution of criminal juries would be an innovation not sanctioned by former practice; that there are, besides, many solid objections to their employment, particularly the intermixture of castes; that the measure would be extremely inconvenient, and would lead, in many cases, to wrongous and partial decisions; and he concludes by expressing an opinion that the reverse of benefit would be the consequence of employing juries.

Mr. Robertson, principal collector at Poona, appears doubtful of the effects which would ensue from the introduction of the measure. He says: "It is not easy to offer good opinions on new plans like this, from the difficulty of judging what prejudices might be set in motion to oppose them. If our Hindoo subjects were usually guided by reason in their views of human affairs, we might arrive at some tolerably accurate conclusion of the light in which any innovation or improvement would be considered and received by them; but we daily observe that their absurd feelings relating to religion and caste give a colour and bias to every consideration and undertaking: all I can say, therefore, is, that if a trial of juries is attempted, it should be at first introduced and its effects observed, in some district where there is a less degree of Brahminical influence than there is in Poona, and where our authority has been long enough established to prevent a failure from causes that might have an influence in a new country."

Mr. St. John Thackeray's opinion upon the subject is to the following effect: that in serious criminal cases, when the evidence against the prisoner is only circumstantial, the judgment of intelligent natives would be highly beneficial; that juries would increase the confidence of the natives in the administration of criminal justice, and render sentences popular, and punishments more exemplary, if the attendance of jurymen were not made vexatious; but the natives, who are so often taken from their business by punchayets, would not willingly give their attendance. To obviate this objection, he proposes that juries should be appointed only in cases involving intricate circumstantial evidence, in the absence of direct testimony or confession.

Mr. H. Pottinger, collector in the Deccan, enters very fully into the details of the question. He is of opinion that the jury system would be an innovation which the natives would neither appreciate nor understand; that compulsion alone could assemble a jury, and when assembled the members would be insensible to the importance of their duty and the sacredness of their oath; that prejudices of caste or education, motives of private interest, or dread of resentment, would deter them from fulfilling the obligations imposed upon them; and that no native jury would pay the necessary attention to the evidence

dence and merits of the case. He explains and supports his opinion by examples : he supposes a Bheel put on his trial for the alleged murder of a Brahmin traveller, and that only circumstantial, not conclusive, evidence appeared against him ; Mr. Pottinger has no doubt that a native jury would find the man guilty, through their strong prejudices against the Bheels and in favour of Brahmins. Again, he reverses the case, and supposes a Brahmin indicted for murdering a Bheel boy, who had been employed about his house in menial offices ; that it was proved the boy had committed a fault, and that the Brahmin had punished him in so cruel a manner that the lad died ; Mr. Pottinger firmly believes that no native jury would find the Brahmin guilty. Even if the jury were a mixed one, the awe in which all other castes (except Musulmans) hold the Brahmins, would induce them to concur in the sentiments of the latter. Mr. Pottinger considers that the natives of India are not prepared to receive the boon of trial by jury ; and that they must be previously taught some of the good qualities of human nature. " My sentiments," he says, " include all classes, for I have found very few exceptions indeed, from the nobleman to the lowest outcast, where I could depend on the veracity or honour of a single creature." He adds that the measure would be unquestionably unpopular, for the people are fully persuaded of the vices which pervade the society they live in, and would protest against their compeers being placed in judgment on them.

Mr. Briggs, political agent in Candeish, is favourable to the introduction of native juries into the judicial system. It happened that, through misapprehension of the instructions of the Commissioner in the Deccan, he commenced trying criminal cases by assembling a punchayet, a form of arbitration confined generally to civil suits. It may be convenient to give an epitome of the details of this substitute for a jury. The number of persons assembled was five, seven, or nine ; and they were usually selected from zemindars of the pergunnah in which the case was tried, and from respectable persons, commonly Brahmins, who accompanied the cutcherry. They selected one of their number as a mookh, or foreman, and the prisoner, on being brought to the bar, was told he might object to any of the individuals. The evidence for the prosecution and that for the defence were successively heard ; after which, the punchayet was required to decide on the prisoner's guilt : if it was affirmed, the Shastree was called in to pronounce the law in the case, which was promulgated, and sentence passed accordingly. Mr. Briggs does not state what effects resulted from this practice whilst it lasted ; but it may be inferred that they were not altogether beneficial, from the declaration which he subjoins, namely, that " punchayets, or juries, modelled as they must necessarily be to render them efficient, by certain rules and restrictions, are new, and unless the advantages considerably counterbalance the disadvantages, they should be introduced with caution, like all other innovations." The most obvious difficulties which oppose the introduction of the system, he states to be these :—The ensuring intelligent and impartial jurymen, and punctual attendance, and preventing the duty falling too heavily on particular persons and classes. If these obstacles, and other evils which he specifies, were sufficiently obviated, the measure, he believes, would be properly appreciated, even at first, and would, in the end, be highly valued by all classes. He confesses that the whole subject is altogether of such magnitude, that it is hardly possible to canvas it within the limited scope of replies to definite questions ; and he concludes as follows : " Viewed purely as a question of jurisprudence, I do not contemplate any evils from the measure that will not, on the whole, be counter-

counterbalanced by the good to be derived from its introduction : as a political question, I consider its introduction as leading to important though perhaps remote advantages.

Mr. J. Grant, the resident at Sattara (now Major Grant Duff, the author of the *History of the Mahrattas*), entertains an opinion unfavourable to native juries. He observes that there would be great difficulties found in the commencement of the measure, and in the course of six months, he thinks, 'the general report would be "impracticability."' He supposes that native juries, chosen from the community, would have the effect of preventing crimes, by spreading useful information, by interesting the people in the measures of punishment, and by keeping them in mind of the consequences of guilt.

This analysis of the opinions of well-informed practical men regarding the scheme proposed, may advantageously be concluded by the following extract of a letter from the Regulation-Committee, wherein the arguments on the subject are concisely and judiciously summed up.

"In commencing our remarks upon the chapter on Trial, the first subject which claims our attention is the question of the expediency of introducing into criminal justice the trial by jury, or some plan founded upon the basis of that institution. The opinion of the majority of the judicial authorities, in answer to the queries transmitted to Government, under date 2d August 1822, being unfavourable to the measure, and our own sentiments being in accordance with those opinions, the subject has not been brought into the draft. As a means of estimating the value of the trial by jury to the natives of this country, we have been led to consider the advantages attendant on that celebrated institution in England and America, the only countries, perhaps, in which it can be said to be enjoyed in perfection. This consideration has impressed us with a belief that those advantages principally consist in the security and support which the trial by jury affords to liberty. It has been said, that were all the other free institutions of England extinguished, the trial by jury, provided that it could be retained unimpaired, would alone suffice gradually to restore to the country a free constitution. But an institution of this kind appears not only to afford the most efficient security for freedom, but to be necessary to its existence; for in free countries there will almost always be a struggle, more or less important and extensive, between the Government on the one hand, and the people on the other; or if not the people, at all events, individuals or bodies of men professing to espouse and protect its interests. A strong inducement is constantly held out to the Government to defend its supporters and to crush its opponents; and were it not for the existence of some popular and unbiassed tribunal, no means probably would be more resorted to, or found to be more effectual for these purposes, than the law.

"Under these circumstances, we cannot be surprised that the trial by jury should be prized beyond any other institution; and that the very considerable inconveniences, to which it exposes individuals, should be cheerfully and zealously borne by the public-spirited and reflecting nations among whom it is established.

"The foregoing remarks, we need not say, are utterly inapplicable to India: there is here no freedom to require the protection of so powerful a safeguard, no struggle between contending parties to call for the employment of an umpire, constituted with such ease to resist the influence of power. The Government of India can never suppose itself to have an interest in augment-

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ing its power over its subjects, and if it were to entertain such an opinion, it would never, in order to put it in practice, have recourse to influencing judicial proceedings, when it has at its disposal means so much more prompt and efficacious.

“But if the political advantages of the trial by jury be placed out of the question, we doubt whether those which remain would be very considerable. If the judge is unbiassed (and, political questions being removed, the grand source of improper bias is cut off,) we see no reason why his decision should not be as likely to be just as that of a jury.

“But this is exactly the state of things prevailing in India; and as the principal advantages of the trial by jury would not exist here, and could not be conceived by the natives, we think that its introduction would not be prized, its benefits would not be felt; and, on the other hand, the personal inconvenience to which individuals would be exposed by its establishment, would be apt, we think, to occasion discontent and dissatisfaction among a people so little disposed to prefer general good to their private interests, and so unaccustomed to contemplate the performance of public duties by others than the public officers; aggravated too, as this inconvenience would in reality be, by the existence of peculiar customs, and magnified beyond reality in the minds of a people so averse to innovation.

“There is, however, one consideration too important to be passed over in silence, which at the first view seems to prove a greater necessity for some institution of this kind in this country than any where else; we allude to the circumstance of the administration of justice being performed by foreigners. But we do not think that the effects of this separation of the judge from the community are entirely disadvantageous. If that minute acquaintance with the language, and with the peculiarities of habits and institutions which a native only can be expected to possess, is unattainable, there is on the other hand a more absolute freedom from all considerations except those dictated by a sense of justice. It is less merit in a judge in India to be unbiassed by fear or favour than in any other country; he is placed from circumstances entirely beyond their influence: so far, therefore, he is better qualified to pass an impartial decision than a native of the purest mind. But if we take into the account those imperfections, to give them no harsher name, which generally prevail in the character of the natives, to such an extent as almost to incapacitate them from performing, in a conscientious, manly way, any public duty which compromises their own interests, or those of a near relation, a friend or a member of the same caste, or from preferring such duty to corrupt emolument, it will, we think, appear that the bare judicial advantages (those alone which it could possess) of the trial by jury, over the mode at present established, would be, to say the least, by no means greater in India than elsewhere. To state in few words the principal considerations which occur on the question: in those countries where the advantages of the institution are the most strongly felt, the jury, from its popular construction, is calculated to furnish impartiality rather than knowledge; its utility, therefore, would here probably be limited, for impartiality is exactly the quality which a judge in India has in perfection, and which a jury of the natives of India is the least capable of supplying.”

THE INDIAN ARMY.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR : IN the last *Monthly Review*, a serious attack is made upon the character of our native army in India, accusing the sipahis of degeneracy ; of having lost their ancient qualities ; and of their having, neither at Bhurtpore, nor in the Burmese territories, displayed that boasted valour and patient fortitude, for which they had been famed in former wars.*

As this is a serious charge against a body of soldiers, who, whilst fighting under our banners, have uniformly merited the applause and gratitude of the British nation, it calls for public discussion: more especially as, it is hoped, an impartial investigation will, instead of creating an unfavourable impression of those troops, make it evident that in no instance have the native army in India displayed a greater spirit of enterprize, or of devotion to the service, than when employed in the Burmese territories.

A large proportion of the Madras native troops (seventeen regiments of infantry, besides cavalry, artillery, and pioneers) were employed in the dominions of the King of Ava. And we have the authority † of the Governor-General in Council, of the Government of Madras, of Major General Sir Archibald Campbell, and of Brigadier General Cotton (who commanded the Madras troops during the latter part of the war), that they not only manifested the greatest alacrity when proceeding on service, many regiments having embarked without the deficiency of a man ; and detachments, *commanded by natives*, having made forced marches to be enabled to join their corps in time for embarkation ; but that they also, when on foreign service, shewed the most patient fortitude in enduring privations in a noxious and baneful climate, and the greatest readiness and cheerfulness in the performance of constant harassing duties : and we have the same authority for stating, that they proved themselves, when in the field, worthy of fighting in the same ranks with the Europeans. As to their appointments and equipments, every one who saw them embark must allow that they were superior to those of any former period : and those who know them will also acknowledge, that in discipline they never were excelled by any part of our native army. Even Major Snodgrass, though by no means remarkable for his partiality to the native service, in some instances (as in page 109 of his work) gives the native troops credit for undaunted conduct, unwearied constancy, and the noblest feeling. Yet, even while doing this, he cautiously abstains from mentioning the officer who commanded them ; and this rule is followed in many other parts of his work : where

* "It was found possible to assemble before the place no more than two battalions of British infantry. To these were joined, indeed, a sepoy force of many thousand men ; but, in the assault of Bhurtpore, we know that not one of the native regiments could be induced to approach the walls until the King's troops had surmounted the ramparts.

† But, in fact, both in the operations before Bhurtpore and in the Burmese war, the native troops were of little more use than to swell the array of our lines. Whether from the belief that Bhurtpore was impregnable, and from the dread which the natives of India had conceived of the Burmese, or else from a degeneration of their ancient qualities, in neither case did the sepoys uniformly display that boasted valour and patient fortitude for which they had been famed in former wars. Late experience has revealed circumstances in the state of discipline, and the whole condition of the native army, which, our Government may be assured, urgently demand most serious consideration, in their vital influence upon the durability of our Indian power. To this subject we may perhaps find a more fitting opportunity to revert ; suffice it now to say, the events before us prove that on the British troops alone could reliance always be placed : and on the occasion of Bhurtpore, the safety of India may positively be said to have been committed, at the bayonet's point, to two weak British battalions," &c.—*Monthly Review*, February 1827.

† *Vide* the general orders by the Governor-General in Council ; the general orders by Sir Thos. Munro, of the 13th June 1826 ; of Brig. Gen. Cotton, of the 29th May 1826, and the repeated orders of Major Gen. Sir Archibald Campbell (all published in preceding numbers of the *Asiatic Journal*).

where the officers of the Company's service who commanded field detachments, those who commanded corps, and sometimes even the corps themselves, are not mentioned, whilst his Majesty's regiments and officers are invariably noticed.

The writer in the *Monthly Review* says that late experience has revealed circumstances in the state of discipline, and the whole condition of the native army, which, our Government may be assured, urgently demand most serious consideration. I am at a loss to imagine what improvements he would wish to make in our native army. Should a transfer of a proportion of officers from his Majesty's service be reckoned essential to the durability of our Indian empire, I should deprecate the idea, unless of young officers, who should enter as cadets; as old officers, unacquainted with the character and prejudices of the natives, might inadvertently cause irreparable injury to the service. That an additional number of old officers to each corps is desirable, no one will deny; they should however be brought up in the service, and accustomed from their youth to the native character: and they should be early exhorted by their superiors, not only to treat their men with suavity and kindness, and the native officers with attention, but also manifest a desire to conduce to their comforts in every way in their power; *bearing always in mind*, that we are *strangers in India*, and hold our empire by the good opinion and attachment of our native troops. Perhaps it would be an improvement if our respective Indian Governments would nominate a certain number of our subadar majors, native commandants retired, with permission to draw double the pay and allowances of a subadar major, at the station where the regiment was raised. This would in some degree restore the middle class, so much wanted in India; and be more than repaid by the number of native officers it would induce to remain with their corps, who now go on the Invalid list.*

The writer in the *Monthly Review* also asserts that at Bhurtpore, and in the Burmese war, the native troops were of little more use than to swell the array of our lines. I have already given the opinions of the highest authorities in India as to the conduct of these troops; and I hope to make it evident that this remark evinces a total ignorance of the qualities of our native troops. That these qualities differ from those of the European soldier is fortunate; were it otherwise, we should not, with a force of 30,000 Europeans, be able to arm and discipline an army of upwards of 250,000 natives, and maintain a rule over eighty millions of people: with no other description of troops could this be done. Had we Arab or Malay auxiliaries, instead of sipahis, any one who has any knowledge of these troops must well know how precarious our situation would be, and of how short duration our dominion. It is on our native army alone that we must depend for consolidating our power in India; and if we pay due attention to their relative situation with us, and (as has been already stated) never forget that we are strangers in the land; if we make it their interest, by kind and liberal treatment, to continue faithful to us, we need fear no foe, foreign or domestic.

The writer in the *Monthly Review* of course imagines, that the force under Sir Archibald Campbell would have been more efficient if composed entirely of Europeans, of the same numerical strength with that under his command of Europeans and natives "serving only to swell his array." Fully appreciating the

* There is an admirable system in the Madras army, of attaching eight boys, the sons of sepoys, to each company, with half the pay of a sepoy, until able to carry arms. The number formerly amounted to ten per company; but that enlightened political economist, Sir George Barlow, reduced the number to eight; thereby saving sixteen shillings per month from each company, at the hazard of diminishing the attachment of the sipahi to the service. I am not aware that the member of Parliament for Aberdeen is acquainted with this "*coup d'essai*;" perhaps it may be thought worthy of imitation!

the qualities of the British soldier, I may yet be permitted to doubt whether the result in our late contest with the King of Ava would have been equally fortunate had our force been entirely British, as, from the difficulty of provisioning them,* from the constant harassing duties they would be required to perform, and the consequent great proportion of sick, and from the number of casualties, it must be evident that the movements of the army would be much impeded; that small detachments would be liable to be cut off; and that by a constant collision with the enemy, in small bodies, the latter would acquire confidence, in the same ratio that our troops, reduced by famine, exhausted by sickness, and harassed by duty, would become depressed. These would be the certain consequences of the force being entirely Europeans, whatever the final result might be.

In support of the usefulness of the native soldier I will go further, and maintain, that if ever we should be assailed in India by an European enemy, say 100,000 men, they would be more than matched in the field by a British force of 30,000 men and 70,000 sipahis; and I hope the reasons I have to adduce, in support of this opinion, will be convincing.

I will first state the difficulty of procuring provisions for so large an European force, and the number of casualties that would infallibly occur were they badly fed, and obliged to take every fatiguing duty in camp. I will next advert to the effects of climate, which would rapidly diminish their numbers, and the weakly state to which the greater part of those doing duty would be reduced from those circumstances; whilst the European soldier, his opponent, well fed, and saved by the native soldier from the harassing duties of the camp and detached marches, would be his superior both in physical strength and animal spirits; and the sipahi, well armed and disciplined, and supported by his brother soldiers, the Europeans (with whom he has often fought and conquered), would at least be equal to his enemy in the field; and, at the close of a campaign would be, numerically, much superior, from having his numbers always completed from the troops in the rear.

It is a common remark, that the soldiers of the north have conquered India from the days of Alexander to our own times. Had it been possible for Alexander and his Macedonians to have met with a Roman general when he encountered Porus, and had he been accompanied with two or three Roman legions, and an Indian army of equal numbers to those of his opponent, disciplined in the Roman manner, and commanded by Roman centurions, we should most probably have a very different record of the expedition of the Macedonian hero. Such would be the description of force to be encountered by any northern power who should now attempt to penetrate into India. They would have to meet a tried band of British soldiers, with military science of the highest order, and a force of natives regularly disciplined, and accustomed, from the time they could carry arms, to a military life, commanded by officers with purely military habits, from having been, from their youth, either in camp or cantonment. The result, under such circumstances, and with the resources of a powerful empire behind, may be fairly anticipated; it would most likely end in the utter discomfiture of the enemy, at an immense distance from their own territories. I will, without fear of contradiction, assert that, under these circumstances, the sipahis would do more than "swell the array of our lines;" that their steadiness in action, the quickness of their fire, and their expertness in military evolutions, would equal those of any army in the world.

24th February 1827.

A SIPAHI SIRDAR.

* The sipahi lives principally on rice or wheat.

literature cannot be accounted for, therefore, upon the same supposition as that referred to in respect to Chinese, except that the language is equally difficult of attainment. But the wild and extravagant character of Hindu composition, the monstrous exaggerations and puerile conceits which disfigure the largest portion of it; and the visible efforts perceptible throughout to support the pretensions of a particular class, at any expense or sacrifice, are sufficient to convince us that the repugnance of western readers to the study of Hindu learning is not without reason. Every reader will not confess, though he may feel, the toil and *ennui* which attend the perusal of the *Mahabharat* or *Ramayan*: works which, to a Hindu, *decies repetita placebunt*. When it is recollected that there are few works in Sanscrit, of which we have any knowledge, that deserve to be characterized as historical; that the Sanscrit poetry offers violence to a taste formed upon the classic models of the West; that the allegories of the Hindus are so recondite and obscure, that they afford no pleasure to a reader not imbued with the religious feelings they are designed to awaken; and that the whole fabric of Sanscrit learning is artfully raised upon the basis of a system of policy foreign to every principle acknowledged amongst European societies; there can be no wonder that, whilst western nations regard with some degree of veneration the science and literature of the Hindus, they should refrain from studies which would, according to appearance, merely confer a reputation for *learning*, without imparting any substantial *knowledge*.

Persian literature may be considered to consist of poetry and apologues: with the exception of mystic philosophy and ethics, there is little of native growth which deserves the name of literature in modern Persia besides the productions of Hafiz, Firdouzi, and Saadi; and tales, many of which are borrowed, with more or less embellishment, from Hindu sources. The poets of Persia may perhaps be placed at the very head of the Asiatic bards; there is a playfulness, a vivacity, a warmth of fancy, and occasionally a depth of feeling, in the works of those just named, which it would be vain to seek in Chinese penury and Hindu metaphysics. In China and ancient Hindusthan, the art of poetry seems to have been, to a great extent, mechanical: the writer, who could reduce his language to certain rhythmical restraints, stamped his production with the character of verse.

The approximation of Persian poetry to the standard of European taste is counterbalanced by an adverse consideration,—a want of interest in the subjects, and of variety in the embellishments. The former defect is felt, probably, by western readers alone; but the sad monotony of the images employed to adorn and illustrate a Persian poet's sentiments; the perpetual recurrence of "roses" and "bulbuls," with their amatory intercourse, must be tiresome, one would think, even to a Persian.

Arabian literature has something to recommend it. The historical records which it contains are extremely valuable, because they afford, in many instances, the only information attainable respecting events with which our own history is intimately connected. A multitude of transactions, which intervened between the fall of the Greek and Roman, and rise of the Gothic empires, are only to be recovered by means of researches in the works of a people who were one of the efficient causes of that chasm in history, which they thus become the means of supplying.

In addition to their historical works, the Arabians have tales and poetry. The former are well known and well appreciated: how far the Arabs are entitled to the praise they derive from this source is another question. The early

early Mohammedans seem to have been (in general) less apathetical and indifferent to the learning of the nations they subdued than might be inferred from the disposition of their descendants. They made themselves masters of the science and literature, as well as of the other properties, of the eastern and western nations. As the Romans became the pupils of their subjects, the Greeks, so the Arabs were not above showing that in point of knowledge they felt themselves to be inferior to the infidels whom, in other respects, they despised. Arabian poetry, however, possesses not many attractions to a Northern reader. Whatever eloquent appeals may be made in its behalf, by those who, with all a patron's partiality, plead the claims it offers to our regard, the very arguments urged in its favour tend to prove that Arabian poetry never can be universally popular, because those arguments demonstrate that none but Arabs can taste its beauties. Arabian poetry is like a plant formed by nature to luxuriate in the desert, but which droops and dies beneath a temperate sky, and in a rich and cultivated soil.

These considerations are not offered as dissuaves from the study of Oriental literature, nor as disparaging the labours of those illustrious scholars who have opened avenues to it; but, if deserving of attention, they will operate merely to moderate the expectations and mitigate the disappointment of students; and will justify, in some material degree, the people of Europe from what would otherwise be regarded as a reproach. To our own country, in particular, it is of infinite importance that the neglect of Oriental literature should not be considered to originate in indolence and indifference: a country connected with the East by the closest ties, and maintaining a high rank amongst the friends and benefactors of learning in general.

It would be desirable, undoubtedly, that every practicable encouragement should be given to those who desire to cultivate Oriental literature; and if a little more attention were paid to this branch of learning at our Universities, it would not redound to the discredit of those celebrated institutions.

S.

. The Editor desires not to be considered responsible for all the opinions expressed in this paper.

HOME.

WELCOME to me, dear native land;
 Thy chalky cliffs and pebbly strand!
 Fond recollections raised by thee,
 Thoughts that awake to ecstasy,
 Repay the toils and sorrows known,
 Of twice two lustres overflown,
 Since the reluctant breezes bore
 Me, unreflecting, from thy shore.
 Though buried are thy meads in snow,
 And frowning mists obscure thy brow,
 Far fairer in my filial eyes
 Than India with her golden skies.
 For thee how oft the tear-drop fell,
 My tortured soul can truly tell.
 Day-dreams and visions of the night
 Have with thine image mocked my sight:
 But now thou cheer'st my aching heart,
 And never, never shall we part.

S. S. S.

connived at in the following particulars, although the letter of the early agreement was preserved:—

It was found that boats capable of carrying twenty-five divers were too unwieldy and expensive, and that compelling the divers who resided at Manar to go to Calpentyu, and those who resided at Calpentyu to go to Manar, was burthensome to them and to the farmer; besides that, the island did not contain more than 200 divers, although 625 were allowed by the agreement.

Canoes were therefore adopted instead of boats, and the divers were allowed to fish at both places at the same time.

It appeared, also, that the fishermen of the coasts and islands where chanks are found, did not refrain from taking such chanks as they met with, in spite of the regulations to prevent it; their poverty, and the opportunity of selling the smuggled chanks to the boats which stopped at the islands on their way to the coast, being too powerful a seduction for them to resist.

To convert the chanks so taken to the profit of government, by increasing the value of the farm, the farmer was tacitly permitted to purchase these chanks from the fishermen at the same rate he paid for them to the divers. The total quantity taken in this way, during one year, has amounted to 40,000 chanks, the value of which, according to the average price of chanks, was 1,600 Porto Novo pagodas.

It was also discovered that some of the most favourable places for taking chanks had been proscribed, in consequence of the supposed neighbourhood of pearl banks, which were found to have no existence; and the limits of the fishery were tacitly extended to the depth of four or five fathoms off Noda-koeda, on the E. side of the island of Manar, and from Calmony to the opposite island of Mandedivoe.

Such was pretty nearly the state of the chank fishery under the Dutch.

Jafnapatam was taken by the English towards the end of September 1795, when the chank farm for 1795-6 was already sold for rix dollars 19,850. This farm was first sold by the English for 1796-7 for rix dollars 22,250, and for 1797-8 for the same rent.

The present farmer* made his first purchase for 1798-9 for rix dollars 30,050; his second purchase was for 1799-1800, for rix dollars 41,100; and his third, for 1800-1, for rix dollars 51,500; his fourth for 1801-2 for rix dollars 35,400 for eight months only, the beginning of the official year having been changed at this period from September the 1st to May the 1st.

The farmer's fifth purchase was for 1802-3 for rix dollars 41,500: until this period the farmer was allowed a remission of one-half of his rent for a pearl fishery, as also to receive the chanks taken by the fishermen. But, previous to the sale of the farm for 1803-4, a regulation was published, by which the remission was reduced to one-third of the rent, the taking chanks by any but the registered divers was prohibited, and, further, an export-duty was laid on them of five per cent. *ad valorem*, while, on the other hand, the other privileges before tacitly enjoyed by the farmer were confirmed, and the limits of the fishery extended round the northern end of the island, as far as Moletivo.

The result was, that the rent for 1803-4 fell to rix dollars 27,500, which was purchased for the sixth time by the present farmer.

It was imagined, by those who framed this last regulation, that the confirmation of a part of the privileges enjoyed by the farmer hitherto on sufferance

* In the year 1808, when this paper was written.

only, and the extension of the limits of the fishery, would more than counter-balance the diminution of remission, the loss of the chanks taken by the fishermen, and the export duty of five per cent. *ad valorem*, and create an increase of the rent; but this was an ill-founded expectation.

The enjoyment of his former privileges was all that was considered by the farmer, whether by sufferance or by positive regulation; and the extension of the fishery was rendered nugatory by the want of chanks within the new limits; while, on the other hand, the diminution of the farmer's advantages were positive and evident.

The seventh and last purchase made by the present farmer was for the three years' farm, from May 1st 1804 to April 30th 1807, for six dollars 91-400, or six dollars 30,466.8.0 per annum.

Having conducted the account of the chank fishery to 1808, it is time to advert to the fluctuation which has taken place in the amount of the rent, for the better understanding of which, see (at the end) list of sales marked (A).

The two first sales of this farm under the English, for 1796-7 and 1797-8, shew a small rise in the rent beyond the Dutch sales, and were made through the medium of sealed proposals.

The farm of 1798-9 was the first sold by public auction, and shews a considerable rise beyond any former year.

The second sale by auction was of the farm for the year 1799-1800, the rent of which amounted to six dollars 41,100, which is probably the full value of the concern according to the privileges of the farmer, as they stood previous to the regulation of 1803-4.

The rise in the rent of the two following years, for 1800-1 and 1801-2, was not owing to any fair competition excited by the value of the concern, but to a combination of the Jafnapatam people to drive out the farmer as an intruder upon their long established speculations.

This idea was generally adopted at the time, and was not contradicted by the opponents of the present farmer.

The fall of the rent on the following year, 1802-3, to six dollars 41,500, seems to give confirmation to this supposition; and the further decline of the rent on the adoption of the regulation of 1803-4 seems to establish it as a fact.

A very powerful cause of the diminished value of the chank fishery is to be ascribed to the war carried on in the provinces to the northward and westward of Bengal; but this cause will have only a temporary operation, and will be speedily removed by the return of peace in those parts. But the effects of local regulations must be expected to continue as long as those regulations exist; the principal of which is the reduction of the remission from one-half to one-third of the rent.

A reference to the paper marked (B) will shew that, from the year 1796 to the year 1806, including a period of eleven years, there have been nine pearl fisheries: it is, therefore, no more than common prudence in those who look to this speculation to calculate upon a pearl fishery as certain, and consider what the concern is likely to produce during those months that they will have the divers at their disposal.

If then the speculator conceives that he can pay 20,000 six dollars for the chank fishery, on the supposition that there is to be a pearl fishery, he will be guided by the quantum of remission in making his offers.

If the remission is one-half of the rent, he will bid 40,000 six dollars; but

if the remission is one-third, he will bid only 30,000 rix-dollars; as in either case he calculates upon paying 20,000 rix-dollars.

In case of a pearl fishery, and consequent allowance of remission, the result, with respect to the revenue received by government, is the same; but whenever it happens that there is no pearl fishery, government loses the difference between 30,000 and 40,000 rix dollars.

Under these circumstances, the present annual rent being rix dollars 30,466.8.0, is equal to rix dollars 40,622.4.0 with the former remission of one-half of the rent. So that the rent of the three years' farm is equal to any former rent, excepting those of the two years when there was a personal combination against the present farmer.

But, further, when it is considered that the farmer now pays an export duty of five per cent. *ad valorem* on his chank, and is deprived of the advantage of receiving the chanks taken by the fishermen, it is clear that the three years' rent sold higher than any former rent, those for the two years above-mentioned only excepted.

It is generally considered that the remission of one-half of the rent does not more than compensate the loss of the divers, during a pearl fishery, to the farmer of the concern in question, who employs the Ceylon divers only, whose number now falls short of 200; but the same remission does not operate as a compensation to the farmer who engages divers from the opposite coast, who loses the services of a greater number of men, and finds his advances to them in great danger of being lost, as they cannot be prevailed upon to stay on Ceylon after the pearl fishery is over, the weather being then more favourable on their own coast, where they have chank fisheries of their own.

It is worthy of remark that the number of Ceylon divers has decreased since the conquest of the island by the English, notwithstanding the frequency of pearl fisheries during that period, which at first sight appears difficult to account for. But when it is considered, that for the period of twenty-eight years the Dutch had no pearl fishery, it cannot be supposed that the divers expected that there would be so many fisheries in so short a space of time under the English Government.

The natural nursery for divers must be looked for in the chank fishery, from its being permanent, and affording them constant employment; and it therefore appears no mean object to increase the motives of the divers for bringing up their children to their own calling, and this can be done only by augmenting their advantages on it: the very contrary of which has occurred from the very heavy rise in the exchange against the island.

When the present rate of payment to the divers was established, averaging, on the two kinds of chank, rix dollars 15.1.0 per thousand, two rix dollars were equal in value to a Porto Novo pagoda, and grain was at less than half its present price; a diver was, consequently, at least twice as well paid as he is now.

The divers of the coast chank fisheries receive now, as they did formerly, about eight Porto Novo pagodas per thousand chanks; and are therefore so much better paid, and receive a greater encouragement, than people of the same calling on this island.

A.

LIST of Sales of the Chank Farm from September 1st, 1789.

Period.	Price.	Purchasers' Names.
From Sept. 1, 1789 } to Aug. 31, 1790 }	13,000	Vydelinga Chitty.
Sept. 1, 1790 } Aug. 31, 1791 }	12,500	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1791 } Aug. 31, 1792 }	11,000	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1792 } Aug. 31, 1793 }	8,000	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1793 } Aug. 31, 1794 }	12,600	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1794 } Aug. 31, 1795 }	13,200	Mahomed Meeran Cunder Marcayen.
Sept. 1, 1795 } Aug. 31, 1796 }	19,850	Vydelinga Chitty.
Sept. 1, 1796 } Aug. 31, 1797 }	22,250	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1797 } Aug. 31, 1798 }	22,250	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1798 } Aug. 31, 1799 }	30,050	A. Saumada Moodliar.
Sept. 1, 1799 } Aug. 31, 1800 }	41,100	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1800 } Aug. 31, 1801 }	51,500	Ditto.
Eight Months {	Sept. 1, 1801 }	Ditto.
	April 30, 1802 }	Ditto.
	May 1, 1802 }	Ditto.
	April 30, 1803 }	Ditto.
Three Years {	May 1, 1803 }	Ditto.
	April 30, 1804 }	Ditto.
	May 1, 1804 }	Ditto.
	April 30, 1807 }	Ditto.

B.

LIST of Pearl Fisheries since the Conquest of Ceylon by the English.

1796. A Pearl Fishery at Arripo.

1797. Ditto.

1798. Ditto.

1799. Ditto.

1800. A Pearl Fishery at Tuticoryn.

1801. A ditto ditto at Arripo.

1802. A ditto ditto at Chilaw.

1803. No Pearl Fishery.

1804. A Pearl Fishery at Arripo.

1805. No Pearl Fishery.

1806. A Pearl Fishery at Arripo.

Being nine Pearl Fisheries in eleven years.

DISTURBED STATE OF CHINA, &c.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR : Yesterday your interesting Number for June 1826 arrived here, and gratified the friends of Chinese literature, by evincing that you felt so much zeal in its cause.

China is at present considerably agitated by internal and external commotions. The inhabitants of Formosa have been in a state of insurrection against the Chinese government during the last half year. In *Kwei-chow** province, the well-known mountaineers, called *Meaou-tsze*,† descend and distress the people of the plains. In every part of China, the banditti or brotherhood, called the *San-hô-hwuy*, described by the late Dr. Milne (whose paper appears in the *Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society*), daily increase. By the way, this brotherhood extensively prevails among the Chinese settlers throughout the Archipelago, at Singapore, Malacca, and Penang, and, if not narrowly watched, is likely increasingly to oppose itself to the magistracy, when its members are guilty of crimes. Murderers escape by its influence.

In *Kan-suh* province, on the N.W. corner of China, there are serious disturbances. Latest reports say that the insurgents have surrounded the Governor and his party of troops, and cut off all communication between him and the general government.

But the most alarming affair is, a rebellion against the throne of China, originated among the Mohammedan tribes in Western Asia. The leader is, in the *Peking Gazette*, called *Chang-kih-wih*. His Imperial Majesty has given one commander power to employ the grand army, collected from seven of the northern provinces, and has commanded levies to be made, in every province, for the commissariat department. In Canton, the Hong-merchants, salt-merchants, and government officers, have subscribed, out of their salaries, (1,400,000) fourteen hundred thousand taels.

M. Klapproth's forthcoming Map of Asia, which you notice in your 719th page (vol. xx.) will be in high request, should this Tartar rebellion against China succeed, and excite an interest in Europe concerning its progress. But this gentleman seems to have so little regard to accuracy in matters of fact, I know not to what extent he is to be trusted in degrees of longitude and latitude. A striking example of the liberty he takes occurred in a paper of his, in the *Journal Asiatique* for 1824. He was abusing a Russian author for his ignorance, plagiarism, &c., and he dragged in Dr. Morrison's name to accuse him of being ignorant of the existence of an old and well-known sect in China, called *Taou-keâou*, or simply *Taou*. But in Dr. Morrison's Dictionary and other writings, published in 1816, 1817, and 1819, this sect is distinctly noticed, and these several writings M. Klapproth had reviewed (and censured contemptuously); yet the good man had the audacity, in 1824, to affirm that Morrison did not know of the existence of the *Taou* sect. However, it is said, he had some reason for abusing the Russians, for the Emperor Alexander found he had so violent a passion for books, it was not safe to allow him to remain in Russia.

Your's obediently,

Canton, China, Nov. 5, 1826.

B. C.

* Koel-cheu.

† Miao-yü.

JUDICIAL OATHS AMONGST THE HINDUS.

ON this important subject, namely, the binding quality of oaths administered to the natives of India in our courts of justice, upon which question many ameliorations in the judicial system necessarily depend, a tract has been written at Calcutta, by a learned pundit, named Kasinath, and lately published under the patronage of Baboo Nand Lal Thakur, a native gentleman of that city. A review of this tract appears in the last number of the *Calcutta Quarterly Oriental Magazine*; and as the subject is intimately connected with that treated of in several articles which have been inserted in this journal, we subjoin a copious abstract of the review, which is evidently by an able hand. The ostensible object of the tract is to prove, that swearing by the water of the Ganges is prohibited by Hindu authority:—

“ The author, a learned pundit belonging to the Government Sanscrit College, has adduced a respectable series of texts relating to evidence generally, and has succeeded in shewing that the practice is not enjoined by any of the works that are usually appealed to for the law of the Hindus; but with one exception, he has not produced any authority decidedly against the practice. Its mischievous consequences in the country, however, are alluded to in the introduction to his work to the following effect:—

‘ It is well known in every village who the persons are that will not take an oath by the water of the Ganges, and the consequence is, that their houses are broken into and robbed repeatedly; the thieves, and the inferior police who should protect them, being well assured that they will not risk the wealth of reputation for perishable property. In fact, if in humble circumstances, so that the affair is not likely to be noised abroad, they repair the breach and keep the business as private as possible, lest they should have to pay, in hush money to the watch, the little that the thieves may have left them.

‘ If the dwelling is that of a man of property, and the affair becomes noised abroad, his first care is to seek the police, and with the utmost humility implore and bribe their silence, lest the superintendent should hear of it and come and investigate the transaction on the spot.

‘ Another evil is that people of bad character fearlessly revile, or even maltreat, persons of respectability, knowing that they will not proceed against them; and infinite distress is frequently occasioned by the villainous practice of swearing to a false accusation against a respectable man, as is often done by abandoned individuals; and finally the dread of the oath prevents men of credit from giving testimony at all, even to the loss of a just cause, whilst many a cause is unjustly decided through the force of perjury. All these evils have arisen from the custom of swearing people by the Ganges water, and there is no remedy for them but its discontinuance.’

“ We do not pretend to know how far the assertions of the author are strictly correct, and we think it not impossible that he may have somewhat surcharged the picture; but it is universally admitted, that respectable Hindus consider taking the oath disreputable, and that they evade or avoid the necessity as much as they possibly can; and there is no doubt also, that in Calcutta a certain number of scoundrels earn a subsistence by menacing decent men with an action, or even entering one against them, in the confidence they will pay as much as their means admit rather than go into court. We happen to know a case of this kind in which one of the most respectable and learned men in this city was lodged in gaol for debt, upon the affidavit of a man to whom we have every reason to believe he was never indebted, and with whom he had never had any intercourse.

“ The author of the tract before us is a little too sanguine, we think, in expecting

expecting that a return to the authorized modes of taking an oath would not only give universal satisfaction, but would induce the parties themselves and their witnesses to come forward in all cases with alacrity. We are rather disposed to concur with the presentment of the grand jury, and to anticipate that there will long continue a serious difficulty in this respect. Oath or not, every Hindu of credit will still feel a repugnance to be brought forward as a witness in a public court. The attendance is of itself derogatory to his rank or his pretensions, whilst the examination he undergoes wounds his self-importance and alarms his timidity. In fact, it is not always a very agreeable thing to a European to receive a subpoena, and it requires more nerve than even he always possesses to pass the ordeal of a cross-questioning.

“ But whatever difficulties, in this point of view, may exist, there can be no question, that it is desirable to remove every impediment to the due development of truth, and as there can be as little that the administration of the present oath does in many instances obstruct justice, it is highly expedient that some less exceptionable mode of authenticating testimony should be devised. We think the principle of the *Sastras*, that of receiving evidence by the troth, or, in other words, by simple asseveration, is quite sufficient, only instead of limiting it to the Brahmins we would extend it to all classes. It would be a sufficient test for those whose situation in life gave reasonable assurance of credibility, and upon those from whose habits little regard for veracity is to be expected, it would be probably as binding as any other form. False testimony is as much a crime in the Hindu as the English code, and it is only necessary to make it punishable in the place of perjury.

“ A review of the authorities adduced on the subject of evidence by our author, would perhaps lead us into details that will possess interest but for few of our readers, and we shall therefore content ourselves with adverting to a few of the most striking.

“ The first is the single authority which condemns the practice; it is taken from the *Gayatri Tantra* of Raghunandana.

“ Whoever takes an oath, whether it be true or untrue, having touched the water of the Ganges, falls into a terrible hell, and burns for seven generations: who takes the oath, or who makes another take it, falls alike into hell, and neither is ever born again in the human shape, but revives as the progeny of the tiger or the boar.”

“ Now this is alarming enough to those who credit it, and we are legislating for those who profess belief; the authority, it is true, is not that of a Rishi, or inspired writer, but Raghunandana is of little less weight in Bengal. He was an industrious and learned writer, and his *dicta* are, therefore, of great weight, particularly in this province.

“ The author next proceeds to shew the importance attached to truth in evidence by different legislators. (Truth is the leader of heaven, or as a boat to cross the ocean. Truth is the first virtue of mankind. There is no greater virtue than truth, no greater vice than falsehood. A false witness is as bad as the murderer of a Brahmin. Let the witnesses on both sides be warned, that those regions of punishment to which the greatest sinners, incendiaries, murderers of women and children are consigned, will be the lot of those who bear false witness. Know that the merit of whatever good acts thou mayest have performed, in a hundred preceding lives, will all be transferred to him against whom, by false testimony, thou mayest gain thy cause).

“ There can be no doubt of the value attached to veracious testimony by the Hindu legislators, and it is, therefore, rather surprising, that they should ever have seemed to sanction a departure from it; at the same time, it is charging

959 / H. 3/5/60.

charging them with more inconsistency than they have committed, to accuse them of sanctioning the practice; all they say is that it is venial, or not a sin in certain cases; and whatever may be our purity of principle, it is to be apprehended, that considerable latitude may be found in its application amongst ourselves. Kasinath has not entered upon any discussion of the question, although he has quoted the texts to which we allude.

“ ‘ In intrigues with women, at marriages, or where the life of a cow or a Brahmin would be endangered, there is no sin in an oath.’—*Menu*. “ Where the death of one of the four castes is prevented by a false oath, the crime may be expiated by an oblation to Saraswati.—*Mitakshara*.’

“ The authority for the form of the oath to which Kasinath proposes to revert is that of *Menu*.

“ ‘ Let a Brahmin be attested by his truth, a soldier by his sword or steed, a trader or cultivator by kine, by seed, or by gold, and a sudra by every crime.’

“ These are the forms more in detail :

“ A Brahmin should say, if I speak false; may my truth (or credibility) perish !

“ A man of the military caste : if I speak untruly, may my weapons, &c. fail me, or, in the language of Macheath, ‘ may my pistol miss fire, and my mare slip her shoulder,’ &c.

“ The Vaisya : if I utter untruth, may my cattle be dry, my seed wither, my wealth be unproductive ! and

“ The unfortunate Sudra is to invoke upon himself the punishment due to every heinous crime, if he testifies what is false.

“ Brahmins, however, engaged in servile or worldly duties, are to be classed with Sudras, upon the text of *Menu* :

‘ Let Brahmins be held as Sudras, who tend kine, follow trade, who are artisans, or actors, or servants, or lend money at an interest.’

“ In the present state of Hindu society, we imagine we have but few who are entitled to give evidence upon their truth.

“ The differences in this respect are still further reduced by the native authorities; for Raghunandana asserts, and he is probably correct, that there are no members of the two pure intermediate classes, the military and mercantile, in this age. We have, therefore, only Brahmins and Sudras to provide for; but very many Brahmins are put upon a level with Sudras, by an authority that cannot be contested; and many Sudras again will be admitted, even by Kasinath himself, and by others of the Brahminical order, to be entitled to as much respect in courts of justice, at least, as any of their own tribe : the sole distinction then that remains is one that universally exists, or between the different orders of society distinguished by birth and property, and the duties or habits of their lives.

“ It was impossible for our author not to advert to the sort of sanction afforded by the *Brahma Vaivertta Purana*, to the practice of swearing by the water of the Ganges. Siva, taking the water of the Ganges in his hand, promises Brahma that he will compose the Vedas. This, Kasinath observes, is a promise, not an oath; an objection about names, not things. Besides, the text continues, ‘ whoever having touched Ganges water utters an untruth, he suffers in the Kalasutra hell for the term of the life of Brahma.’ This, replies the pundit, refers to untruth generally, not to an oath : but generals comprehend particulars, and if, on no occasion, a man should speak untruth after having touched the Ganges water, he should scarcely speak untruth when

giving evidence, after having gone through a similar ceremony. There is no disputing the force of the passage; it plainly ascribes a solemn corroborative force to the touching of Ganges water in making a declaration of any nature, and is tantamount to a form of oath. Kasinath, however, observes that the acts of Mahadeva are no examples for men; in which we entirely agree with him. We can furnish him, however, with a still better argument against the weight of the passage, which is, that it is no authority at all. The *Puranas* in general have very undefined force as law; but the *Brahma Vaivérta* is the least of all entitled to consideration, as it is a purely and grossly sectarian work, the object of which is to diffuse the adoration of two deities of suspicious sanctity, the Juvenile Krishna and his mistress, Radha, whose worship cannot boast of a higher antiquity than four or five centuries at most.

"With this comment we shall take leave of the tract of the learned professor. It is a useful manual, and does credit to his reading and industry: it does credit also to his moderation. With the effervescence of unpractised disputants, the Bengali writers are apt to be rather violent against all who may be expected to disagree with them; but this treatise is a steady, temperate compilation, without any infusion of controversial acerbity."

E P I S T L E

FROM THE KING OF AVA TO THE EMPEROR OF CHINA.

SIR and my brother: I've a pretty tale
 For your celestial ear,—it must be told;
 Lies, though they're sometimes useful, wo'n't avail
 To get me back my provinces and gold.
 The stranger-devils have undone me, Sire;
 I'm ruined, beggared—made a dolt, an ass:
 Sure 'twill awaken your celestial ire,
 To find a brother brought to such a pass.
 What man—nay what a Burman—could, I did,
 But fight, that's not our business, as you know;
 I sent my slaves, and, just as they were bid,
 They went, though few returned. Both high and low,
 Bundoolab, Chobwa, Woondock and Woonghee,
 Priest, conjuror, invulnerable, witch,
 Quitted the Golden Presence with great glee,—
 And left their carcases in swamp or ditch.
 I stormed; the devils laughed; I next cajoled:
 And then I thought I'd duped them; but, alack!
 They were too cunning, and each Burman bold
 Turned tow'rds them most respectfully his back.*
 In short they've kindly taken from the weight
 Of government that pressed the golden brow;
 They ease my treasury, as well as state,
 For marvellously fast my tickals go.
 Your knowledge of these devils is but slight:
 Permit me then, just as a friend and brother,
 To hint: Be prudent; tempt them not to fight:
 I've been a fool; don't you be made another.
 When they come modestly to buy your tea,
 Desire your Quans and Hoppas to be civil;
 I'd rather, neighbour, it were you than me,
 That next made trial of the *stranger-devil*.

* Turning the back to a person is a mark of the greatest respect amongst the Burmese.

AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS OF INDIA.

THE following " Questions " were circulated in India at the instance of a very intelligent servant of the Company (Mr. Hodgson), with the view of eliciting as much information as possible upon the subject of the various tenures, methods of agriculture and of village government, revenue systems, &c. prevalent throughout India. Some particulars of this desirable information may possibly be latent at the present moment in England, for want of a convenient depository, or channel of communication. We offer a place in this journal for any such memoranda, should they exist; and with this view, chiefly, we publish the queries referred to.

QUESTIONS.

1. What are the nature and names of the large divisions, and larger and smaller subdivisions of territory?

2. What may be the number of the villages, on an average, in such divisions and subdivisions, and what the amount of the public revenue received in the aggregate from the villages included therein?

3. Is all land (impenetrable jungles and inaccessible hills excepted) included in the boundary of some village?

4. Is land ever found unattached to a village?

5. Are the boundaries of villages well defined? That is, do the boundaries of villages constitute the limits of all superior limits?

6. How is the jurisdiction of the courts defined? By placing superior divisions with their villages under the court, or by naming rivers or other landmarks as the boundary?

NOTE.—Not applicable, of course, to countries under native governments.

7. Are the villages surrounded with walls?

8. Have they frequently dependent hamlets situated at a distance, but within the known boundary of the lands of the principal villages?

9. What is the nature of the constitution of the township, or village municipality? How, and by whom, is the internal management and administration conducted?

10. Has every village an establishment of servants; such as writer of the accounts, watcher, carpenter, blacksmith, washerman, barber, priest?

11. If they have, how are their services remunerated?

12. Do any of the inhabitants, being cultivators, enjoy any superiorities or immunities that other inhabitants, whether cultivators or not, do not possess?

13. Have any inhabitants, who are cultivators, any lands exempted from public revenue, or are they, by custom, entitled to levy any tax or cess in money or kind on the other inhabitants being cultivators or not being cultivators?

14. Is any considerable portion of the land artificially irrigated by means of large reservoirs (tanks), or by means of water-courses from rivers, or by wells?

15. What are the kinds of grains chiefly cultivated?

16. Are the fields of unirrigated land enclosed with hedges or walls?

17. Has every field a name?

18. Does every cultivator consider the land he cultivates as his own?

19. Does the cultivator continue in the possession of the same fields so long as he pleases and pays the public revenue thereon; or can he be removed, although regular in his payments of the public assessment?

20. Do cultivators ever transfer the land they usually occupy to others by sale or gift (subject, of course, to the obligation under which it is held by the person desirous of transferring it)?

21. If the same land is not held year after year, and from generation to generation, by the same family, how is the annual or other periodical distribution and occupation of land regulated?

22. Is the public revenue, payable by the cultivator, paid generally in kind or in money?

23. Who collects the revenue from the cultivator, and through how many stages or persons does it pass before it reaches the treasury of the Government from the hands of the first payer?

24. What portion of the gross produce is estimated to be paid as public revenue by the actual cultivator and first payer, in cases where the revenue is customarily payable in kind?

25. What portion of the gross payments made by all the cultivators of a village is supposed to reach the treasury of Government?

26. What is the estimated amount of the charges of collection?

27. When Taseeldars and other subordinate agents are employed to collect the public revenue, do they ever collect it direct from each cultivator, or do the cultivators, collectively, of each village contract for a given sum annually? In short, with whom are the revenue settlements made?

28. Are they made by the collector in his office with each cultivator or payer of revenue; or with all, collectively, belonging to one village; or with a few of the leading men of each village; or with one man, as the head; or with any individual who may propose to contract for the collection of the revenue of one village, ten villages, or fifty villages?

29. Where ancient rajhas, zemindars, jageerdars, or other intermediate agents, temporary or permanent, existed when the country was ceded to us, how were they dealt with? If continued in possession, were they allowed to make their own terms with the cultivators?

30. What portion of the total revenue, payable by the cultivators, is supposed to be paid by these agents?

31. Is there any rule for fixing the amount of the public demand on these intermediate, permanent, or temporary agents; or have the terms on which they held under the former government been confirmed?

32. Is there any ancient establishment for the watching of villages, or for watching of districts? Is there now, or was there ever, any fund provided for these purposes?

33. Of what caste are the cultivators generally?

34. Do Mahomedans follow the occupation of husbandry to any considerable extent, and in any considerable numbers?

35. Are there any villages of which all the cultivators are Mahomedans?

36. Are there any considerable number of cultivators who possess so many as thirty, fifty, or one hundred ploughs, and who employ farming servants or slaves in numbers in their agricultural occupations?

37. What is the least, mean, and greatest numbers of ploughs belonging to one individual?

38. Are the servants employed by cultivators in agricultural labours freemen or slaves?

39. Is the distinction known between a double and single plough?

40. Are horses or buffaloes used in the plough?

41. Are ploughs ever drawn by more than one pair of oxen?

42. Is manure in general use, and of what kind?

43. Is the drill plough in use?

44. Are the rice crops chiefly sown broad-cast, or more frequently transplanted?

Cultivator is used for ryot to prevent mistakes. The owner of the plough is meant by the term cultivator, not the stipendiary driver of it, or the slave of a cultivator?

NOTE.—It is suggested that all technical terms should be written in the local dialect and its appropriate character, and that Hindi terms should be written in the Nāgari in preference to the Arabic character.

LETTERS OF BISHOP HEBER.

THE sentiments of such a man as the late Bishop of Calcutta, expressed in the confidence of private correspondence, after some considerable experience and local observation, upon those important topics which relate to the moral condition of the people of India, must be esteemed of great value, even by those who are not prepared to adopt all the views which they disclose. A very acceptable gift has therefore been conferred upon the Anglo-Indian world by the publication, in the number of the *Quarterly Review* which has just appeared, of copious extracts from some MS. letters of Bishop Heber, addressed to "one of his oldest and most intimate friends," whilst the lamented prelate was prosecuting his extensive journeys throughout his vast diocese; communicating the results of his observations and reflections, touching matters connected with his pastoral office, diversified by occasional speculations upon subjects of a less serious complexion.

We conceive it to be our duty to contribute, as much as we can, to disseminate the remarks contained in these interesting letters; and shall, therefore, transfer from the *Review* such passages of the extracts as seem calculated to add to our stock of knowledge respecting the actual state of India.

In a letter dated Barrechar, in Guzerat, March 14, 1825, whilst he was on his journey to Bombay, the Bishop thus writes to his friend concerning the condition of the Indian people:

"Though the greater part of the Company's provinces (except Kumaon) are by no means abundant in objects of natural beauty or curiosity, the prospect offering little else than an uniform plain of slovenly cultivation, yet, in the character and manners of the people, there is much which may be studied with interest and amusement; and in the yet remaining specimen of oriental luxury and pomp at Lucknow; in the decayed, but most striking and romantic, magnificence of Delhi; and in the Taj-Mahal of Agra (doubtless one of the most beautiful buildings in the world), there is almost enough, even of themselves, to make it worth a man's while to cross the Atlantic and Indian oceans.

"Since then, I have been in countries of a wilder character, comparatively seldom trodden by Europeans, exempt during the greater part of their history from the Mussulman yoke, and retaining accordingly a great deal of the simplicity of early Hindoo manners, without much of that solemn and pompous uniformity which the conquests of the House of Timur seem to have impressed on all classes of their subjects. Yet here there is much which is interesting and curious. The people, who are admirably described (though I think in too favourable colours) by Malcolm, in his Central India, are certainly a lively, animated, and warlike race of men, though, chiefly from their wretched government, and partly from their still more wretched religion, there is hardly any vice, either of slaves or robbers, to which they do not seem addicted. Yet such a state of society is at least curious, and resembles more the picture of Abyssinia as given by Bruce, than that of any other country which I have seen or read of; while here too there are many wild and woody scenes, which, though they want the glorious glaciers and peaks of the Himalaya, do not fall short in natural beauty of some of the loveliest glens which we went through ten years ago in North Wales; and some very remarkable ruins, which, though greatly inferior as works of art to the Mussulman remains in Hindoostan Proper, are yet more curious than them, as being more different from any thing which an European is accustomed to see or read of.

"One

"One fact, indeed, during this journey, has been impressed on my mind very forcibly—that the character and situation of the natives of these great countries are exceedingly little known, and in many instances grossly misrepresented, not only by the English public in general, but by a great proportion of those also who, though they have been in India, have taken their views of its population, manners, and productions from Calcutta, or at most from Bengal. I had always heard, and fully believed till I came to India, that it was a grievous crime, in the opinion of the Brahmins, to eat the flesh or shed the blood of any living creature whatever. I have now myself seen Brahmins of the highest caste cut off the heads of goats as a sacrifice to Doorga; and I know, from the testimony of Brahmins, as well as from other sources, that not only hecatombs of animals are often offered in this manner as a most meritorious act (a rajah, about twenty-five years back, offered sixty thousand in one fortnight), but that any person, Brahmins not excepted, eats readily of the flesh of whatever has been offered up to one of their divinities; while among almost all the other castes, mutton, pork, fish, venison,—any thing but beef and fowls,—are consumed as readily as in Europe. Again, I had heard all my life of the gentle and timid Hindoos, patient under injuries, servile to their superiors, &c. Now, this is doubtless, to a certain extent, true of the Bengalese (who, by the way, are never reckoned among the nations of Hindoostân by those who speak the language of that country), and there are a great many people in Calcutta who maintain, that all the natives in India are alike. But even in Bengal, gentle as the exterior manners of the people are, there are large districts close to Calcutta, where the work of carding, burning, ravishing, murder, and robbery, goes on as systematically, and in nearly the same manner, as in the worst part of Ireland; and on entering Hindoostân, properly so called, which, in the estimate of the natives, reaches from the Rajamahall hills to Agra, and from the mountains of Kumaon to Bundelcund, I was struck and surprised to find a people equal in stature and strength to the average of European nations, despising rice and rice-eaters, feeding on wheat and barley-bread, exhibiting in their appearance, conversation, and habits of life, a grave, a proud, and decidedly a martial character, accustomed universally to the use of arms and athletic exercises from their cradles, and preferring, very greatly, military service to any other means of livelihood. This part of their character, but in a ruder and wilder form, and debased by much alloy of treachery and violence, is conspicuous in the smaller and less good-looking inhabitants of Rajapootan and Malwah; while the mountains and woods, wherever they occur, show specimens of a race entirely different from all these, and in a state of society scarcely elevated above the savages of New Holland, or New Zealand; and the inhabitants, I am assured, of the Deccan, and of the presidencies of Madras and Bombay, are as different from those which I have seen, and from each other, as the French and Portuguese from the Greeks, Germans, or Poles. So idle is it to ascribe uniformity of character to the inhabitants of a country so extensive, and subdivided by so many almost impassable tracts of mountain and jungle, and so little do the majority of those whom I have seen deserve the gentle and imbecile character often assigned to them.

"I met, not long since, with a speech by a leading member of the Scotch General assembly, declaring his 'conviction that the truths of Christianity could not be received by men in so rude a state as the East-Indians, and that it was necessary to give them first a relish for the habits and comforts of civilized life before they could embrace the truths of the gospel.' The same slang (for it is nothing more) I have seen repeated in divers pamphlets, and even heard

it in conversations in Calcutta. Yet, though it is certainly true that the lower classes of Indians are miserably poor, and that there are many extensive districts where, both among low and high, the laws are very little obeyed, and there is a great deal of robbery, oppression, and even ferocity; I know no part of the population, except the mountain tribes already mentioned, who can with any propriety of language be called uncivilized. Of the unpropitious circumstances which I have mentioned, the former arises from a population continually pressing on the utmost limits of subsistence, and which is thus kept up, not by any dislike or indifference to a better diet, or more ample clothing, or more numerous ornaments, than now usually fall to the peasant's share (for, on the contrary, if he has the means, he is fonder of external show and a respectable appearance, than those of his rank in many nations of Europe); but by the foolish superstition, which Christianity only is likely to remove, which makes a parent regard it as unpropitious to allow his son to remain unmarried, and which couples together children of twelve or fourteen years of age. The second has its origin in the long-continued misfortunes and intestine wars of India, which are as yet too recent (even where their causes have ceased to exist) for the agitation which they occasioned to have entirely sunk into a calm. But to say that the Hindoos or Mussulmans are deficient in any essential feature of a civilized people, is an assertion which I can scarcely suppose to be made by any who have lived with them. Their manners are at least as pleasing and courteous as those in the corresponding stations of life among ourselves; their houses are larger, and, according to their wants and climate, to the full as convenient as ours; their architecture is at least as elegant; and though the worthy Scotch divine may, doubtless, wish their labourers to be clad in hoddin grey, and their gentry and merchants to wear powder and mottled stockings, like worthy Mr. — and the other elders of his kirk-session, I really do not think that they would gain either in cleanliness, elegance, or comfort, by exchanging a white cotton robe for the completest suit of dittos.

“Nor is it true, that, in the mechanic arts, they are inferior to the general run of European nations. Where they fall short of *us* (which is chiefly in agricultural implements and the mechanics of common life), they are not, so far as I have understood of Italy and the South of France, surpassed in any great degree by the people of those countries. Their goldsmiths and weavers produce as beautiful fabrics as our own; and it is so far from true, that they are obstinately wedded to their old patterns, that they show an anxiety to imitate our models, and do imitate them very successfully. The ships built by native artists at Bombay are notoriously as good as any which sail from London or Liverpool. The carriages and gigs which they supply at Calcutta are as handsome, though not so durable, as those of Long Acre. In the little town of Monghyr, three hundred miles from Calcutta, I had pistols, double-barrelled guns, and different pieces of cabinet-work, brought down to my boat for sale, which in outward form (for I know no further), nobody but perhaps Mr. — could detect to be of Hindoo origin; and at Delhi, in the shop of a wealthy native jeweller, I found brooches, ear-rings, snuff-boxes, &c. of the latest models (so far as I am a judge), and ornamented with French devices and mottos.

“The fact is, that there is a degree of intercourse maintained between this country and Europe, and a degree of information existing among the people as to what passes there, which, considering how few of them speak or read English, implies other channels of communication besides those which we supply,

supply, and respecting which I have been able as yet to obtain very little information.

"Among the presents sent last year to the Supreme Government by the little state of Ladak, in Chinese Tartary, some large sheets of gilt leather, stamped with the Russian eagle, were the most conspicuous. A traveller, who calls himself a Transylvanian, but who is shrewdly suspected of being a Russian spy,* was, when I was in Kumaoon, arrested by the commandant of one of our fortresses among the Himmalaya mountains; and, after all our pains to exclude foreigners from the service of the native princes, two chevaliers of the Legion of Honour were found, about twelve months ago, and are still employed in casting cannon, and drilling soldiers for the Seik Raja, Runjeet Singh. This, you will say, is no more than we should be prepared to expect; but you, probably, would not suppose (what I believe is little, if at all, known in Russia itself,) that there is an ancient and still frequented place of Hindoo pilgrimage not many miles from Moscow;† or that the secretary of the Calcutta Bible Society received, ten months ago, an application (by whom translated I do not know, but in very tolerable English,) from some priests on the shore of the Caspian sea, requesting a grant of Armenian bibles. After this, you will be the less surprised to learn that the leading events of the late wars in Europe (particularly Buonaparte's victories) were often known, or at least rumoured, among the native merchants of Calcutta, before Government received any accounts from England; or that the suicide of an English minister (with the mistake, indeed, of its being Lord Liverpool instead of the Marquis of Londonderry) had become a topic of conversation in the "Burra Bazar" (the native exchange), for a fortnight before the arrival of any intelligence by the usual channels.

"With subjects thus inquisitive, and with such opportunities of information, it is apparent how little sense there is in the doctrine that we must keep the natives of Hindoostan in ignorance if we would continue to govern them. The fact is, that they know enough already to do us a great deal of mischief, if they should find it their interest to make the trial. They are in a fair way, by degrees, to acquire still more knowledge for themselves; and the question is, whether it is not the part of wisdom, as well as duty, to superintend and promote their education while it is yet in our power, and supply them with such knowledge as will be at once most harmless to ourselves and most useful to them.

"In this work the most important part is to give them a better religion. Knowing how strongly I feel on this subject, you will not be surprised at my placing it foremost. But even if Christianity were out of the question, and if, when I had wheeled away the rubbish of the old pagodas, I had nothing better than simple deism to erect in their stead, I should still feel some of the anxiety which now urges me. It is necessary to see idolatry, to be fully sensible of its mischievous effects on the human mind. But of all idolatries which I have ever read or heard of, the religion of the Hindoos, in which I have taken some pains to inform myself, really appears to me the worst, both in the degrading notions which it gives of the Deity; in the endless round of its burdensome ceremonies, which occupy the time and distract the thoughts, without either instructing or interesting its votaries; in the filthy acts of uncleanness.

* This passage refers to Csoma (not Comno) de Koros, of whose history and travels the reader may find some account in this Journal, vol. xxi. pp. 214 and 768.—Ed.

† This is, we believe, a mistake of the writer.—Ed.

cleanness and cruelty not only permitted but enjoined, and inseparably interwoven with those ceremonies ; in the system of castes, a system which tends, more than any thing else the devil has yet invented, to destroy the feelings of general benevolence, and to make nine-tenths of mankind the hopeless slaves of the remainder ; and in the total absence of any popular system of morals, or any single lesson, which the people at large ever hear, to live virtuously and do good to each other. I do not say, indeed, that there are not some scattered lessons of this kind to be found in their ancient books ; but those books are neither accessible to the people at large, nor are these last permitted to read them ; and, in general, all the sins which a Sudra is taught to fear, are, killing a cow, offending a Brahmin, or neglecting one of the many frivolous rites by which their deities are supposed to be conciliated. Accordingly, though the general sobriety of the Hindoos (a virtue which they possess in common with most inhabitants of warm climates) affords a very great facility to the maintenance of public order and decorum, I really never have met with a race of men whose standard of morality is so low, who feel so little apparent shame in being detected in a falsehood, or so little interest in the sufferings of a neighbour not being of their own caste or family ; whose ordinary and familiar conversation is so licentious ; or, in the wilder and more lawless districts, who shed blood with so little repugnance. The good qualities which there are among them (and, thank God ! there is a great deal of good among them still) are, in no instance that I am aware of, connected with, or arising out of, their religion, since it is in no instance to good deeds or virtuous habits of life that the future rewards in which they believe are promised. Their bravery, their fidelity to their employers, their temperance, and (wherever these are found) their humanity and gentleness of disposition, appear to arise exclusively from a natural happy temperament ; from an honourable pride in their own renown, and the renown of their ancestors ; and from the goodness of God, who seems unwilling that his image should be entirely defaced even in the midst of the grossest error. The Mussulmans have a far better creed ; and though they seldom either like the English or are liked by them, I am inclined to think, are, on the whole, a better people. Yet, even with them, the forms of their worship have a natural tendency to make men hypocrites ; and the overweening contempt with which they are inspired for all the world beside, the degradation of their women by the system of polygamy, and the detestable crimes, which, owing to this degradation, are almost universal, are such as, even if I had no ulterior hope, would make me anxious to attract them to a better or more harmless system. In this work, thank God, in those parts of India which I have visited, a beginning has been made, and a degree of success obtained, at least commensurate to the few years during which our missionaries have laboured ; and it is still going on, *in the best and safest way, as the work of private persons alone, and although not forbidden, in no degree encouraged, by government.*"

The concluding sentiment shows the soundness and discretion of the bishop's opinions regarding the important work of conversion in India. We now add another extract, from the same letter, concerning the architectural skill and ancient monuments of the Hindus :

" I had myself (says he) heard much of these before I set out, and had met with many persons, both in Europe and at Calcutta (where nothing of the kind exists), who spoke of the present natives of India as a degenerate race, whose inability to rear such splendid piles was a proof that these last belong to a remote antiquity. I have seen, however, enough to convince me both that

the Indian masons and architects of the present day only want patrons sufficiently wealthy or sufficiently zealous to do all which their fathers have done, and that there are very few structures here which can, on any satisfactory grounds, be referred to a date so early as the greater part of our own cathedrals. Often, in Upper Hindoostan, and still more frequently in Rajapootan and Malwah, I have met with new and unfinished shrines, cisterns, and ghâts, as beautifully carved and as well proportioned as the best of those of an earlier day. And though there are many buildings and ruins which exhibit a most venerable appearance, there are many causes in this country which give this appearance prematurely. In the first instance we ourselves have a complex impression made on us by the sight of edifices so distant from our own country, and so unlike whatever we have seen there. We multiply, as it were, the geographical and moral distance into the chronological, and can hardly persuade ourselves that we are contemporaries with an object so far removed in every other respect. Besides this, however, the firmest masonry in these climates is sorely tried by the alternate influence of a pulverizing sun, and a continued three months' rain. The wild fig-tree (*peepul* or *ficus religiosa*), which no Hindoo can root out, or even lop, without a deadly sin, soon sows its seeds and fixes its roots in the joints of the arching, and being of rapid growth, at the same time, and in a very few years, increases its picturesque and antique appearance, and secures its eventual destruction. Lastly, no man in this country repairs or completes what his father has begun, preferring to begin something else by which his own name may be remembered. Accordingly, at Dacca are many fine ruins, which at first impressed me with a great idea of their age. Yet Dacca is a modern city, founded, or at least raised from insignificance, under Shah Gelaughire, in A.D. 1608; and the tradition of the place is, that these fine buildings were erected by European architects in the service of the then governor. At Benares, the principal temple has an appearance so venerable, that one might suppose it to have stood unaltered ever since the Treta Yug, and that Menu and Capila had performed austerities within its precincts. Yet it is historically certain that all the Hindoo temples of consequence in Benares were pulled down by Aurungzebe, the contemporary of Charles the Second, and that the present structure must have been raised since that time. The observatories of Benares, Delhi, and Jagepoor, I heard spoken of in the carelessness of conversation, not only as extremely curious in themselves (which they certainly are); but as monuments of the *ancient* science of the Hindoos. All three, however, are known to be the work of the Rajah Jye Singh, who died in 1742!

"A remote antiquity is, with better reason, claimed for some idols of black stone, and elegant columns of the same material, which have been collected in different parts of the districts of Rotas, Bulnem, &c.—These belong to the religion of a sect (the Boodhists) of which no remains are now found in those provinces. But I have myself seen images exactly similar in the newly-erected temples of the Jains, a sect of Boodhists, still wealthy and numerous in Guzerat, Rajapootan, and Malwah; and in a country where there is literally no history, it is impossible to say how long since, or how lately, they may have lost their ground in the more eastern parts of Gundwana.

"In the wilds which I have lately been traversing, at Chittore Ghur more particularly, there are some very beautiful buildings, of which the date was obviously assigned at random, and which might be five hundred or one thousand, or a hundred-and-fifty years old, for all their present guardians know about the matter. But it must be always borne in mind that one thousand
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"The oldest things which I have seen, of which the date could be at all ascertained, are some detached blocks of marble, with inscriptions, but of no appalling remoteness; and two remarkable pillars of black mixed metal, in a Patan forest near Delhi, and at Cuttab-Minar in the same neighbourhood; both covered with inscriptions, which nobody can now read, but both mentioned in Mussulman history as in their present situation at the time when "the believers" conquered Delhi, about A.D. 1000. But what is this to the date of the Parthenon? Or how little can these trifling relics bear a comparison with the works of Greece and Egypt!

"Ellora and Elephanta I have not yet seen. I can believe all which is said of their size and magnificence; but they are without date or inscription: they are, I understand, not mentioned, even incidentally, in any Sanscrit MS. Their images, &c. are the same with those now worshipped in every part of India, and there have been many rajahs and wealthy individuals in every age of Indian history who have possessed the means of carving a huge stone-quarry into a cathedral. To our cathedrals, after all, they are, I understand, very inferior in size. All which can be known is, that Elephanta must probably have been begun (whether it was ever finished seems very doubtful) before the arrival of the Portuguese at Bombay; and that Ellora may reasonably be concluded to have been erected in a time of peace under a Hindoo prince, and therefore either before the first Afghan conquest, or subsequently, during the recovered independence of that part of Candesh and the Deccan. This is no great matter certainly, and it *may* be older; but all I say is, that we have no reason to conclude it is so, and the impression on my mind decidedly accords with Mill—that the Hindoos, after all, though they have doubtless existed from very great antiquity as an industrious and civilized people, had made no great progress in the arts, and took all their notions of magnificence from the models furnished by their Mahometan conquerors."

Another passage in the same letter shews the groundlessness of the murmurs and censures vented against the administration of Lord Amherst in regard to the Burmese war. We pass by this as supererogatory.

In a letter dated from Trichinopoly, 1st April 1826 (two days only before his death), the Bishop writes an interesting account of the character of the Rajah of Tanjore, a Hindu prince deeply imbued with European literature,—the writer of English poetry!—and of his tutor, the celebrated Schwartz; the latter we subjoin, since it contains information as to the number of Christian converts in the south of India, which we rejoice to receive upon the warrant of such authority as that of Bishop Heber:

"Of Schwartz and his fifty years' labour among the heathen, the extraordinary influence and popularity which he acquired, both with Mussulmans, Hindoos, and contending European governments, I need give you no account, except that my idea of him has been raised since I came into the south of India. I used to suspect that, with many admirable qualities, there was too great a mixture of intrigue in his character, that he was too much of a political prophet, and that the veneration which the heathen paid, and still pay him (and which, indeed, almost regards him as a superior being, putting crowns and burning lights before his statue), was purchased by some unwarrantable compromise with their prejudices. I find I was quite mistaken. He was really one of the most active and fearless (as he was one of the most successful) missionaries who have appeared since the Apostles. To say that he was dis-

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interested in regard to money is nothing; he was perfectly careless of power, and renown never seemed to affect him even so far as to induce an outward show of humility. His temper was perfectly simple, open, and cheerful; and in his political negotiations (employments which he never sought, but which fell in his way) he never pretended to impartiality, but acted as the avowed, though certainly the successful and judicious, agent of the orphan prince intrusted to his care, and from attempting whose conversion to Christianity he seems to have abstained, from a feeling of honour. His other converts were between six and seven thousand, besides those which his predecessors and companions in the cause had brought over. The number is gradually increasing, and there are now in the south of India about two hundred Protestant congregations, the numbers of which have been sometimes vaguely stated at forty thousand. I doubt whether they reach fifteen thousand; but even this, all things considered, is a great number. The Roman Catholics are considerably more numerous, but belong to a lower caste of Indians (for even these Christians retain many prejudices of caste), and in point of knowledge and morality, are said to be extremely inferior.

"The Brahmins, being limited to voluntary votaries, have now often very hard work to speed the ponderous wheels of Suon and Bali through the deep lanes of this fertile country. This is, however, still the most favoured land of Brahminism, and the temples are larger and more beautiful than any which I have seen in Northern India. They are also decidedly older; but as to their very remote age, I am still incredulous."

In the sketch we gave of the history of the departed bishop, vol. xxii, p. 380, owing to hasty accumulation and arrangement of materials, one or two trifling mistakes were committed, which we take this opportunity of rectifying.

Bishop Heber was born, not in 1784, but on the 21st April 1783. He was entered of Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1800, and was elected a fellow of All-Souls about 1810. It was in 1805, when he was twenty-two years of age, that he accompanied Mr. Thornton to Russia, from whence he returned in 1807; soon after which he entered holy orders. We were led into our mistake by supposing that the travels of Mr. Heber preceded those of Dr. Clarke, in whose book are contained the valuable remarks from Mr. Heber's journal. Dr. Clarke's travels were not published till several years after they were performed.

We were not aware at the time of writing our sketch, that the bishop married the daughter of Dr. Shipley, late Dean of St. Asaph, a relation of Lord Combermere; and that, besides his widow, he left two children, to seek such consolation as can be found for their irreparable loss in devout submission to the will of Providence, and in the affectionate and universal demonstrations of esteem which his worth has excited.

EDUCATION OF CADETS.

MERITS OF DR. GILCHRIST.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: I was much gratified to observe in your journal for this month, the kind, yet judicious terms in which you have editorially spoken of one of the most eminent oriental scholars of the present age. It may be affirmed that the exercise of a similar discretion and moderation on the part of some public functionaries of a former day, when it was in their power to have acted towards him with grace and justice, would have been followed by results the very reverse of those with which we are familiar. Whether the axiom be universally received, it is nevertheless one which is continually manifest, that a sense of individual wrongs, accompanied by gratuitous unkindness or incivility, sharpens men's vision in behalf of others, and renders it more microscopic than it would, under more favourable circumstances, ever have been.

It cannot be forgotten, that to the zeal, perseverance, and acumen of Dr. Gilchrist, are to be ascribed the coherent form and substance, and the more general cultivation than in former times, of the most prevalent language in India—*Hindoostanee*. No declamation can deprive him of the signal merit of having constructed one of the most consistent grammars in existence, from materials the most unpromising and heterogeneous; and I conceive it will be admitted that no man living could attempt to compete with him, either in colloquial exercises, or the more abstruse and difficult points of that language. There may be, and indeed is, a variety of opinions as to his system of communicating it and Persian in Roman characters; but it should be borne in mind, that the substitution was designed to facilitate the acquisition of first principles, and with them an accuracy of pronunciation, which would in vain be attempted with either of the characters, where, for instance, they must be often merely guessed at, without a certainty of being right, when *far advanced*, and indeed almost proficient: the different sounds attached to *l* (ulif) and *w* (wao) are examples. I could cite proofs, more than sufficient, that those objects were, *bonâ-fide*, uniformly accomplished by Dr. Gilchrist, in a degree far surpassing that effected by any other system; and while much could thereby be accomplished in a short space, it is well known to those who attended Dr. Gilchrist's lectures, that when so far *well-grounded*, reading in the *Arabic* and *Nagree* characters immediately followed, and subsequently the pursuit of *Persian*, and the rudiments of *Arabic*.

As a matter of truth and justice I have stated so much; and I have been the more prompted to do so, from observing that, since the learned Doctor has taken a public and prominent part at the India House, some conceive themselves at liberty to treat him in a way very different from what he really merits. Sarcasm and vituperation are never argumentative, and I believe very rarely convincing. The good judgment and distinguished talents of Mr. Atkinson, the former editor of the *Calcutta Government Gazette*, would, I apprehend, have been very differently exercised from those of his successor; and in contradistinction to his opinions, and those of the editor of the *Bombay Courier*, I could adduce facts more than there is space for. I received a letter from a native, about twelve years since, while with an army of about 5,000 men on service, and being then unable to peruse it, I had to inquire who could supply my deficiency, and in the extent of that army I could only learn of two officers

so qualified; one of them became afterwards a professor in Fort William College, and the other equally distinguished in a different department. Now, contrasting the paucity of officers acquainted with native languages in that not distant time, with the number of young officers more or less acquainted with *Hindoostanee*, *Persian*, and *Arabic*, in a regiment or a small force, now-a-days, let individuals say from whence they derived their knowledge or taste, or their value for them.

Sir Thomas Munro is a great authority on every question relating to the welfare of India, and I would not, as a much younger man, oppose to his opinion any judgment of mine alone; but it so happens that I can quote the judgment of a late distinguished Commander-in-chief of that presidency, as to studying in England. A cadet accompanied me out a few years since, and as he was nearly related to Sir Alexander Campbell, he waited upon him, on his arrival, and his observation was remarkable:—"I hope you have studied *Hindoostanee*, for nothing can be done without it." I need not here state that, even in the Madras presidency, that dialect is the military one, almost exclusively. A friend of mine, whose parents resided in London, studied nearly two years under Dr. Gilchrist, before a *promised* cadetship was obtained. I saw him much on his arrival in India, and can truly state, he not only was better versed in the principles of the *Hindoostanee* language than most young men usually are in their own, but also read with facility the native newspapers, and could converse with precision on all ordinary topics with a native.

I must not trespass on your well-filled columns too largely, and I shall close by mentioning a circumstance which tends to confirm the estimation in which Dr. Gilchrist's rules and principles are held. The late Col. Taylor, Professor of *Hindoostanee*, &c. in the College of Fort William, told me, in answer to a question, that although they did not use Dr. Gilchrist's works in the college, they were entirely governed by his principles in the books used for *Hindoostanee*. This, from a professor, and the author of a dictionary of that language, as well as other works, is a testimony, I conceive, of no small value; more particularly as students in the college arrived in the possession of more or less of the principles acquired in England.

I am, Sir, Your's, &c.

AMICUS VERITATIS.

March 13th, 1827.

THE DEW.

From the Suktikārnāmritā.

Like virtue in a woman lost to shame;
 Like the light cloud that dims the chastest fame;
 Like harlots' love, or levity in brides;
 Like joy in hearts where wickedness abides;
 Like marriage-broils where true affection ties;
 So short-lived is the Dew,—when born it dies.

THE BOMBAY PRESS.

Our last number, in which we adverted to the unaccountable series of hostilities between the Bench of Bombay and other parties, had scarcely issued from the press, when the particulars of another occurrence reached us, not less remarkable than any of those to which we alluded.

In pp. 392 *et seq.* will be found a report of some curious proceedings in the Supreme Court of Bombay, on an indictment for libel, preferred by the Rev. Mr. Davies against Capt. Miller, which the grand jury twice *ignored*. The editor of the *Bombay Courier* (the official journal) having been reproached, by certain Calcutta newspapers, with omitting, from improper motives, a report of the proceedings in the Supreme Court of Bombay respecting the regulations for the press,* departed, on the occasion of the proceedings in the case above-mentioned, from his customary rule of silence, and inserted a report, which, it appears, was furnished by one of the grand jury.

Assured, as no doubt the editor felt himself, of having secured an accurate statement of what passed, and of not violating the express instructions given him (he says) by the proprietors of the paper, that "nothing should be inserted that was likely to give offence to the Supreme Court," he must have been mightily surprised to find that, with all his caution, he trod upon the verge of ruin.

On the 16th September, as soon as the judges, Sir Edward West and Sir C. Chambers—(Sir R. Rice being absent from the presidency)—had taken their seats, the former adverted to the report in the unfortunate *Courier*.

We have before us two accounts of what fell from the judges on this occasion: one of the reports appears to have been furnished by the *court itself*, to the *Bombay Gazette* (a paper hostile to the *Courier* and to the government party); the other report was transmitted to, and published in, the *Bengal Hurkaru*, the editor of which paper states that he received it from a Bombay correspondent, who assured him that it was a correct report of what occurred.

We shall first insert the judges' report, which is prefaced in the *Bombay Gazette*,—the paper we again observe opposed to the *Courier*, and the vehicle chosen by the judges (if we correctly understand what follows)—by these remarks:—

"In publishing, as we now do, the observations of the honourable the judges in the Supreme Court on Saturday last, we feel bound publicly to avow the practical difficulty we have experienced, notwithstanding the skill and assiduity of our reporters, in obtaining on the present, and indeed on former occasions also, satisfactory reports (*i. e.* to all parties) of the proceedings in court. The present may be considered as coming from the most authentic sources; but we must at the same time candidly acknowledge, that *it does not coincide in all respects with that received from our reporters.*"

Supreme Court, Saturday, Sept. 16th.—The chief justice, upon taking his seat, observed, that he held in his hand the government newspaper, the *Courier*, in which he was sorry to observe a very gross misstatement of the proceedings of the court. The account of what had passed in court at the sessions, with respect to the bill against Capt. Miller for a libel, was full of errors; but particularly his (the chief justice's) address to the grand jury on their last presentment. He was made to say, "that there

was

* The editor of the *Bombay Courier*, in justifying himself against the charge of omitting this report at the direction of the government (which he distinctly denies), alleges the difficulty of publishing a perfectly accurate report, such as would not give "the slightest offence" to the judges, and the apprehensions arising from "recent occurrences fresh in the editor's recollection," as the grounds for omitting the account of those proceedings.

was nothing irregular in the prosecutor adopting proceedings against them (the grand jury), if he thought there was any misconduct on their part." Again, "that they were not punishable under the circumstances;"—whereas he had repeated, again and again, that no proceeding could be had against the grand jury; but that though a party who supposed himself aggrieved could not proceed against them, or question their conduct for the purpose of criminating them, he might question it incidentally and collaterally, for the purpose of obtaining justice for himself; and might make the supposed misconduct of the grand jury in throwing out a bill, the ground for a motion for a criminal information, in the same matter as appeared by the several precedents produced from the Crown Office upon the debate in the House of Commons on Mr. Plunkett's (attorney-general for Ireland) having filed a criminal information after a bill had been thrown out. The chief justice said this misstatement *might possibly be the result of mistake*; and he should have been more inclined to think so, *had it not been for a very improper paragraph in another part of the same paper*; he said he alluded to the article containing an extract from Mr. Mill. His lordship also observed, that there had been mistakes in the account which the *Gazette* had given of the same proceedings; but that it was clear, from the introduction to the report, that *these were mere mistakes, and not wilful misstatements*. His lordship concluded by saying, that he intended this merely as a warning, that if this was intended as a commencement of misrepresentation of the court's proceedings, the court would at least *fine the editor and proprietors, be they who they might, to such extent as might be necessary to prevent a repetition of such practice*.

Sir Charles Chambers. "I am sure I do not wish to add any thing in the way of vituperation or censure to what has fallen from the chief justice; but I wish to take this opportunity of explaining the part of the report which relates to me. I think it not correct; and to shew how incorrect it is, I will point out a part of the last speech attributed to me. I am made to say, that I thought that a criminal information might be moved for after a bill had been ignored. Now, as far as I can recollect, and I think I am pretty accurate, I did not mention a word about a criminal information. What I said was, that after a bill had been ignored by one grand jury, it might be presented to any number of successive grand juries; and my inference from that was, that neither Mr. Graham nor his client could be considered as guilty of any offence in law, by impeaching the finding of the present grand jury: and the whole of this argument has been omitted. I could also point out other inaccuracies: but with reference to the report, it ought to be considered, first, that it was a partial report—a professedly partial report, and that by a grand jurymen, a party highly interested; and, secondly, that the report is by a person who is not a lawyer. I believe, moreover, that the place from which I am in the habit of addressing the grand jury is so distant, that it is very possible that they hear indistinctly what I say, and receive, consequently, impressions which I do not wish to convey."

The above report was not inserted in the *Gazette* till four days after the remarks were delivered. We now add the report from the *Hurkaru* of what fell from Sir E. West, in which will be observed some remarkable peculiarities, showing a wilful misrepresentation somewhere:

The Chief Justice.—"I think it necessary to take public notice of a gross misstatement that appears in the government paper of to-day (the *Courier*) of what I said to the grand jury at the last sessions. I call it the government paper, because the government resolution at the head of the paper proves it; and I have to say, that if this is to be the commencement of a course of proceeding, and these misrepresentations of the court's proceedings are intended to be persisted in, *I will punish the editor and the proprietors, both by fine and imprisonment*, now that we have the means in our power of finding out who they are. I am made to say, in this report of a grand jurymen, what it is impossible any judge could have betrayed such gross ignorance of the law as to have said.

I never stated, as the report would seem to imply, that proceedings could be adopted against a grand jury for misconduct in the discharge of their duty. What I said to the grand jury was this:—'You, gentlemen, are by law exempted, you are not amenable

or punishable, in point of law, for any misconduct you may be guilty of, although in conscience you may be reprehensible; but though they were exempted, I said, and not subject to any proceedings directly against themselves, yet their conduct might incidentally and collaterally be open to be questioned, and I instanced the proceedings in Ireland, relative to the attacks on the Lord-Lieutenant, and the ex-officio information that was filed by the Attorney General against the rioters, and of its being filed in consequence of the grand jury having refused to find bills against them; and that when it was complained of in Parliament as unconstitutional, eighteen cases were cited by the Attorney General in support of the measure, in every one of which criminal informations had been granted, on the ground of the grand jury having improperly ignored bills. The whole of those proceedings are in the Parliamentary Debates of 1823. The report of what I said to the grand jury betrays the grossest ignorance of law in the reporter, or must have proceeded from a wilful intention to misrepresent. To suppose that a judge could, at this time of day, have told a grand jury what I am reported to have said! It betrays an ignorance that a mere novice in the law could not have shewn, and I therefore cannot believe the report to have come from a grand jurymen; but, whoever is the author, the misstatement, I think, must have been made by mistake and through ignorance. However, I now give this public warning, that if these misrepresentations are persevered in, I will certainly punish both the editor and proprietors, by fine, and also by imprisonment, unless privileged persons.

"There is another remark I have to make upon another part of the *Courier* of to-day: it is in regard to an extract it has made from a work of Mr. Mill (the author of *British India*), relative to judges and reports of law proceedings. Now, that is a very indecent remark to be inserted in a public paper, and much more indecent in a government paper. *If the whole of what Mr. Mill has written about judges and law had been inserted, I know where the editor of that paper would be now, or in a day or two, at least.*

"The *Gazette* newspaper some time ago published a report of these same proceedings, and though in that report there were some slight inaccuracies, yet the editor, in the introductory part of it, professes that he could give but the substance of what fell from the judges, and not the tenor of their speeches and their exact words, as he had not been able to obtain them; but no such apology appears in the paper of to-day for the speeches of the judges.

"I repeat, that if these misrepresentations are persisted in, *I will certainly punish both the editor and the proprietors, be they who they may.*"

The extract from Mr. Mill's history, the insertion of which (according to both reports) was an act of impropriety on the part of the editor of the *Courier*, was the following, preceded by the paragraph prefixed to it:

"As the perils of publishing law proceedings here have been particularly alluded to, and admitted, both by Ludawhisky (a writer in an adverse paper) and ourselves, we beg to observe that that peril is not confined to India, but is also experienced in England, as is exemplified in the following quotation from the historian of India, in his *Essay on Government*:

"In England, where there is no definition of libel, and where the judges, therefore, are allowed to punish, under the name of libel, whatever writing they do not like, the punishment of unfavourable observations on the conduct of a judge—nay, in some instances, and those of the highest importance, the simple report of his proceedings—is treated as one of the most heinous of all possible offences. No wonder! allow judges, or allow any men, to frame laws, and they will frame them, if they can, to answer their own purposes. Who would not, if he could, make a law to protect himself from censure? more especially if he were a man disposed to set in such a way as to deserve censure."

The circumstance of the report being made by a grand jurymen, proves either that the judges did not express themselves in a manner to be clearly understood by those whom they addressed, or that the report was a wilful misrepresentation, which, under the circumstances, it is hard to believe.

The chief discrepancy between the two reports just inserted, consists in the omission in the former of the threat implied in the words—"If the whole of what Mr. Mill has written about judges and law had been inserted, I know where the editor of that paper would be now, or in a day or two at least:" expressions which indicate such a total want of judicial propriety, that we must be sceptical on this point. It is observable, however, that in the other report, the chief justice intimates that he would, *at least*, fine the editors and proprietors to such an extent as might be necessary.

We forbear to quote any of the remarks made upon this occasion by a certain portion of the Calcutta press, whose exultations at the late "liberal opinions" of the Bombay bench have been suddenly checked; nor shall we speculate upon the revulsion of feeling which those persons will undergo in this country who have been eulogizing "the King of England's most upright and learned chief justice and his Majesty's other judges of Bombay," upon the supposition, no doubt, that those functionaries were hostile to arbitrary power in the abstract, and would be as unwilling to exercise a control over the press, by *fining to an unlimited extent*, without intervention of jury, as to invest the Government with that additional check upon licentious publication, which a Privy Council has approved for another part of India. If the report in the *Hurkaru* were correct (which, out of regard to the characters of the judges, we are bound to doubt), we should, indeed, be tempted to contrast the threat conveyed in the commencement of Sir E. West's remarks with the following opinion of Mr. Justice Chambers, when the press regulations were rejected: *

"It may be said that the power of sending British subjects home extends to those residing in the presidencies as well as to others: but it must be remarked, that this power, as it has been exercised over the press, has probably never been in the contemplation of the Legislature at all."

We are very unwilling to prolong a topic like this, which is far from being a pleasing one; we leave the subject, therefore, with the hope that the bad spirit, which seems to exist at the little island of Bombay, will speedily subside.

The *Bengal Hurkaru* speaks of a prevailing rumour which explains the mutual bickerings at Bombay, namely, that two separate interests at that presidency have each a paper a little under its control. If this be the fact, God forbid that the judges should be one of these parties: but we could not believe this, even if it were directly asserted.

We cannot forbear a remark upon the disadvantageous situation in which the press of Bombay is placed by the rejection of the lately offered Regulations. By their adoption an editor who offended, in the opinion of the government, could have been punished by the suppression of his paper; but now, by the interposition of the "King of England's most upright and learned chief justice and his Majesty's other judges," the poor editor will be transmitted: a penalty beyond all comparison more severe than the other; yet the bench (though of opinion that the Legislature never contemplated such a power over the press,) is content it should be exercised, and has been the cause of its exertion by the government in the only case which has happened. So much for the merit of defending the editors from "shackles," ascribed so undeservedly to the Supreme Court!

* See p. 206.

THE BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER.

THE following very interesting and important additions to the particulars respecting the source of this river given in our two last volumes,* appear in the *Government Gazette* of Calcutta.

The supposed source of the Brahmaputra has been visited, and Captain Bedford, of the Survey Department, is the first European who has penetrated to the *Brahma Kund*, the reservoir in which, according to Hindu legend, the infant river-God, the son of Brahma, was cradled. The Kund, however, is not the source of the river, and is situated on this side of the hills, near the opening through which the stream issues. The river, within the first range of the hills, flows from the south-east, but from what point precisely is yet to be ascertained.†

The following is the voyage up the Brahmaputra to which we referred, and which is of high geographical interest on various accounts. The course of the river is altogether a novelty, and the supposed source, the *Brahma Kund*, is now for the first time the subject of European testimony. The source of the river within the hills is no longer doubtful, and it does not rise from the sacred reservoir. We are not satisfied, however, that the *Brahma Kund* here described is the genuine *Kund*. The legendary account of this spot, which is to be found in great detail in the *Kalika Puran*, specifies a vast number of remarkable rocks and mountains in the vicinity, of which the following narrative presents no trace. We should have expected some shrine of the goddess *Kámakhya* at this place, in addition to those she has in other parts of Asam, of which she is the tutelary deity. That the natives consider the Brahma Kund now visited, to be the sacred pool, is no doubt correct, but Asam ceased for so many centuries to be Hindu, that the legendary fables of the faith are, like its practices, forgotten.

The route followed on this occasion commenced at the Kundil Mukh, and proceeded along the main stream of the Brahmaputra: on the 3d and 4th of March, the Baliyan, Now Dihing, and Tenga Panec rivulets, were passed, and a portion of the river was now entered, running east from Sadiya, which is yet a blank upon the latest maps. The Brahmaputra, although of considerable breadth and depth in some places, is hence constantly broken by rocks, separated into different small branches by islands of various extent, and traversed by abrupt and numerous falls. The water is in general beautifully clear; but becomes turbid after rain, which even in the month of March, is frequent and heavy. After every shower, the river rises and rushes down with an accelerated impetuosity, which it is difficult to stem: several of the boats in the excursion to which we advert, were sunk, and some of the people drowned. Imminent danger of such a catastrophe was an every-day occurrence.

On the 10th of March, the course pursued left the main stream, and proceeded up the Sukato, a detached branch on the right bank of the Brahmaputra, and, like that, intersected by rapids, and endlessly subdivided by islets and rocks. No signs of life were observable in this part of the journey, and although the banks were covered with thick forests, but few birds or beasts disturbed their solitude. The Sukato forms with the Brahmaputra, or Bor Lohit

* See *Asiatic Journ.* vol. xxi, pp. 52, 186; vol. xxii, p. 178.

† *Cal. Gov. Gaz.* Sept. 11.

Lohit, an extensive island, the greater part of which is impenetrable forest; but there is one village on it, of some extent, named Chata, inhabited by Mismees, who are of more peaceable habits than the mountain tribe of the same appellation. In dress, ornaments, and features, they do not differ materially from the Mismees on the Dipung. Their arms were the dhao, bows and arrows, and spears, and one man had a powerful cross-bow, with a piece of ivory neatly inlaid above the trigger. Their travelling bags, covered with the strong fibres of the Sawa tree, resembling very coarse hair, completed their marching apparatus. They are not very choice in their diet, and the musk beetle is an article of their food of very common use. This insect is found in great numbers along the Brahmaputra and its branches; it lurks in the day under stones and rocks, and takes wing chiefly at night; the smell is very powerful and offensive. The Mismees merely reject the head, and then dress the insect with their vegetable viands.

After a tedious voyage of eighteen days, during which nearly forty rapids were passed, the course returned on the 28th March to the Bor Lohit, or Brahmaputra. The Sukato opens above a rapid in the main stream, which is pronounced by the natives impracticable, and it has every appearance of being so. At this point the river, now confined to a single branch, takes a northerly direction, and passes under the first range of hills. It runs in one part close below a perpendicular cliff of this range, from sixty to eighty yards high, and covered with soil and forest. The current at this point is strong, and its volume considerable; large rocks project from four to six feet above the current, which have evidently been rolled down from a distance, as the hills near at hand, from two hundred and fifty to four hundred feet high, are composed of earth and small stones. The banks are every where clothed with forest, in which the dhak or kinsuka (*butea frondosa*) is conspicuous. This tree, along the upper part of the Brahmaputra, grows to the height of fifty or sixty feet, and its clusters of scarlet flowers, contrasted with the large white and fragrant blossoms of the koleea creeper, form a rich ornament of the scenery. The left bank of the river, below where it issues from the hills, is composed of loose granite blocks, occasionally resting on felspar, partially decomposed; the strata are in some places horizontal, but in others they are much broken, as if undermined and fallen into the stream. In a dry stone bed was observed a large detached block, twenty-five feet long, eighteen high, and nearly the same breadth. It is difficult to conceive by what means so ponderous a body could have been precipitated into its present position. There are several other large rocks immediately below where the Lohit issues from the hills, by which it is separated into several small channels; but at the point where these unite, its general breadth is two hundred feet, and it flows with great force and volume. The course of the river behind the first range is concealed from view by a projecting rock jetting into the river, beneath which it rushes as from a fall, with much foam and noise. Behind this, the river is said to be free from rapids, and to flow quietly along a gentle slope, which report is confirmed by the shelving outline of the distant hills. The river is also said to change its course behind the first range, and to flow from the south-east under some small hills, beyond which a higher range appears, with the snowy mountains in the distance.

After some ineffectual attempts to open a passage to the supposed head of the river, the Deo Panee, or Brahma Kund (the "divine water," or "well of Brahma"), which it was known was not remote, and after some unsuccessful efforts to reach the villages, the smoke of which was perceptible on the neighbouring hills, a communication was at last effected with the Mismees of

Dillee,

Dillee, a village about a day's journey from the left bank, as well as with the Gaum, or Tikla, the head-man of the Brahma Kund village, in whose company a visit was paid to the reservoir on the 4th of April. This celebrated reservoir is on the left bank of the river: it is formed by a projecting rock, which runs up the river nearly parallel to the bank, and forms a good sized pool, that receives two or three small rills from the hills immediately above it. When seen from the land side, by which it is approached, the rock has much the appearance of an old Gothic ruin, and a chasm about half-way up, which resembles a carved window, assists the similitude. At the foot of the rock is a rude stone seat; the ascent is narrow, and choked with jungle: half-way up is another kind of seat, in a niche or fissure, where offerings are made; still higher up, from a tabular ledge of the rock, a fine view is obtained of the Kund, the river, and the neighbouring hills: access to the summit, which resembles Gothic pinnacles and spires, is utterly impracticable: the summit is called the Doo Baree, or dwelling of the Deity. From the rock the descent leads across a kind of glen, in the bottom of which is the large reservoir, to the opposite main land, in the ascent of which is a small reservoir about three feet in diameter, which is fed by a rill of beautifully clear water, and then pours its surplus into its more extensive neighbour below. The large Kund is about seventy feet long, by thirty feet wide. Besides Brahma Kund and Deo Panee, the place is also termed Purbut Kathar, in allusion to the legend of Parasurama having opened a passage for the Brahmaputra, through the hills, with a blow of his kat'har, or axe. The offerings made at this holy spot are very miscellaneous, and many of them very incompatible with the ordinary Hindu belief; as fowls and cows. Whatever, indeed, is eaten by the minister, is supposed acceptable to the deity; and the Mismees of this part of the country have no prejudices in the article of food, eating beef and pork, and every variety of flesh and fowl. The visitors to the reservoir do not seem to be numerous or opulent.

The village of Dillee consists of about twelve houses erected on platforms, from thirty to forty feet long: the lower part of the building is occupied by the cattle, which form the sustenance of the people, besides Indian corn, marwa, and yams. The Mismees also grow mustard, pepper, cotton, and tobacco, but rice apparently is not cultivated. A spirit is made from marwa: it is also ground to a coarse flour and mixed with Indian corn, and then forms the commonest article of food in use. The Dillee Mismees also eat the musk beetles, squeezing them between two stones, and then grilling them. The women are not at all reserved or kept concealed: they are rather fair and of good stature, with pleasing features. They dress like the Kamtees and Assamese. The men in general are well-made and athletic, with rather fair complexions. The country is well-peopled, and a number of villages are scattered over it, of which the Dillee Gaum is said to hold authority over twenty. The Tikla of Brahma Kund, who was met on this occasion, is the youngest of three brothers, who equally share in the offerings made at the shrine. Both chiefs and people displayed entire fearlessness, and confidence in their visitors, and every disposition to treat them with hospitality. Want of supplies, however, prevented any stay at this point, and rendered a prompt return to Sadiya indispensable, which was effected by the 11th of April. The cloudy and rainy weather that prevailed during the greater part of the route, was too unfavourable for observation, to admit of any latitudes being laid down with confidence. The only point ascertained is the head of the Sukato branch, which is in $27^{\circ} 51' 21''$. The general range of the thermometer during the route

route was 57° to 65° ; but this seems to have been ascribable to the continued rain, accompanied by easterly and north-easterly blasts from the neighbouring mountains. When the sun was out the heat was intense. On the 30th March the thermometer, at noon, in the tent, was 102° .*

The progress of geographical discovery on our north-east frontier has assimilated itself to the development of a well-wrought tale, in which expectation is kept alive by a succession of incidents, promising, yet retarding, the denouement, and disappointing expectation only to excite curiosity. In the same manner we have been constantly coming upon the sources of the Brahmaputra, without attaining them, and at the same time, determining a variety of new and interesting points, which, although not the ultimate object of inquiry, have not defrauded it of its legitimate reward.

A recent excursion to the east of Saddiya has, we learn, been prosecuted by Lieut. Wilcox, who, in the first instance, proceeded up the branch of the river called the Thenga Pani, or Thenga Nadi. After passing the Mora Tenga Marbar, and Disavi, the stream diminished to the breadth of eight or ten yards, and the navigation was stopped by trees that had fallen into the river, or across it. Like all the streams east of Saddiya, it abounds with rapids, and from the great inclination of its bed, it never overflows the banks, although they are low. The whole tract through which it flows is said to be highly fertile, but the country is thinly peopled, and the lands scantily cultivated. Such is the want of labourers in the fields, that the Sinhho chiefs are obliged to put their hands to the plough themselves.

The Thenga Nadi, from this description, has not contributed to the determination of the origin of the main stream, and we had lately an opportunity of shewing that it does not rise from the reservoir on the Lohit, on this side of the mountains, to which the designation of Brahma Kund is now applied. In the account we published in our paper of the 21st of September, it was stated that the river was seen flowing down a gentle slope for a considerable distance within the first range of hills running from the south-east: on the present occasion, it has been ascertained from oral, but apparently trustworthy information, that the Brahmaputra rises by two branches, one to the north and the other to the east, the Talooka and the Talooding. The former is the smallest of the two, and its water is impure. It skirts the hills, which run off northward, and its banks are thinly peopled. The Talooding has villages on both banks: it has its source in a snowy mountain in the Khana Deba's country, from the opposite side of which issues the Irawadi. The conflux of both is said to be within the frontiers of the Lama's country, one day beyond Sitti, on the boundary, which latter is eight days' journey from Taecn. Taecn is the third village on the route from the Meesmee country to that of the Lama; but it is sometimes made in one day's march from Challa, on the Thenga, by a difficult path that passes by the Brahma Kund: this route, however, is impracticable for travellers with baggage or burthens. At Taecn the river is crossed by a cane suspension bridge, and cattle may proceed along the remainder of the road in a circuitous direction. Bameya, the seventh stage on this route, is described as an immense hill, which can only be crossed in a direct line with the assistance of ropes.

The sources of other principal branches of the Lohit or Brahmaputra
Proper,

* *Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, September 21.

Proper, as well as of the great southern portion, the Bor Dehing, are, however, still undetermined. Of the latter, nothing has yet been published: of the former, some additional information has been obtained, but it requires verification. The sources of the Dihong are apparently not far from the frontiers of the Lama's country, as the Meesmees, situated on the former, carry on an active traffic with the latter. Of a more important branch, the Dibong, the Bor Abors confidently assert, that it flows from the west, and that a lake through which, or from which, it issues, gives rise to the Soobunshicree also. The description, however, seems to be rather incompatible with the assertion, that in the north-westerly route to the Lama's territory, the Dibong is crossed from east to west at the twelfth stage, and then left.

Similar reports have been received on this, as on other occasions, of a very considerable river skirting the further side of the hills, to which the term Sri Lohit is applied. It is said to flow from east to west, a direction that would disunite it from any possible communication with the rivers of Asam; but this is probably an error, and the river, if not altogether a nonentity, may possibly be the Irawadi. The Sri Lohit is said to have been crossed by the posterity of Khunling and Khunlac, the heaven-descended founders of the family which to the period of the Burman invasion governed Asam. It may possibly, therefore, be a river of merely mythological origin.*

* *Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, November 2.

EAST-INDIA MEDICAL SERVICE.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: Your correspondent, a medical officer on furlough, in his letter to you of the 8th ultimo, published page 339 of your last number for March, in stating the pension of chaplains of the East-India Company's service on retirement at £300 per annum, after fifteen years' service in India, has not adverted to the increased remuneration to chaplains, from the pension of Major, £292, to that of Lieutenant-Colonel, £365, per annum, after fifteen years' service in India, published in the second edition of the East-India Register, corrected to 26th October 1826, viz.

The pension, or remuneration for services, on retirement, of chaplains, and of surgeons, is as follows:

A member of the Medical Board, after two years' service as such, and from thirty-two to thirty-six years' service in India	per annum	£500	0
A superintending surgeon, after two years' service as such, and after from thirty to thirty-two years' service in India.....		300	0
A surgeon, after from seventeen to thirty years' service in India, the pay of captain, 10s. 6d. per day		192	12
A chaplain, after fifteen years' service in India, the pay of Lieutenant-Colonel, £1. per day		365	0

A SURGEON OF THE COMPANY'S SERVICE ON FURLOUGH.

London, 15th March 1827.

Review of Books.

Inquiry into the State of the Indian Army, with Suggestions from its Improvement, and the Establishment of a Military Police for India. By WALTER BADENACH, Esq., Captain Bengal Army. London, 1826. 8vo. pp. 151.

THE subject treated of in this work is highly interesting to a very large portion of the Anglo-Indian public; and to the remainder, those, namely, who have no direct personal or professional feeling therein, it cannot appear of slender importance. Who can doubt that our empire in the East, as it has been acquired, so it is, and must continue to be, upheld, mainly at least, by military strength? It follows then, that whatsoever tends, in any degree, to impair the efficacy of that source of power, as well as any suggestions calculated to promote its efficiency, ought to command the attention of all, and the especial notice of the Government.

The extraordinary constitution of the Indian army,—a body of 270,000 men,* employed to keep their fellow countrymen in subjection to foreigners, and governed by a few aliens interspersed throughout its mass,—calls for active and unremitted observation, not merely of the aggregate, but of its constituent yet discordant parts. Without such care, this curiously compacted fabric might be liable to sudden shocks, which would threaten its subversion.

Like every part of our Eastern government, the Indian army was based upon a foundation too narrow for the dimensions which it has acquired through successive augmentations; but, unlike the various departments of civil government, a military establishment is not readily susceptible of change or partial correction in its essentials. The stern inflexibility of military discipline, which is jealous of complaint, and, theoretically, forbids discussion, tends to keep the governing power long ignorant of defects injurious to the subordinate parts of the system, which are adapted to it *per force*; and when discovered, the evils have perhaps become inveterate, or admit of cure only by expedients which are too inconvenient or too costly to be readily adopted.

That there are defects and practical evils in the present military system of India, so far as the European officer is concerned, cannot be disputed by any person conversant with the subject, or who has had an opportunity of mixing with individuals of that gallant body, which has been aptly called the soul of our Indian army: many serious defects in that system have been pointed out by writers in this journal. There must be some foundation for complaints so universal: and when it is considered that the East-India Company, though often charged with all the blemishes of our Eastern government, possess but very imperfect means of obviating many of the objections raised against their military system, and that they cannot foresee in how short a time its entire administration may be taken from them, we are inclined to surmise that the Directors themselves may be passive from other motives than a conviction that it does not require change and improvement.

In the mean time the public are indebted to those individuals who, being competent to the task, and actuated by a proper spirit, develop the defects of the Indian military system, and suggest expedients for its improvement. For these reasons we think that Capt. Badenach has not only conferred a boon upon his brother officers, but upon the country at large, by the publication

before

* Which is, after all, only one in 400 of the population: the British army in Ireland is one in 233.

before us. We are not prepared to concur with him in all his views; but there are none which do not deserve consideration. We are glad to perceive that he disavows (in effect) all connexion with the body of censurers by wholesale; who condemn whatever is, merely because it is. "Even the system of which I complain," he candidly says, "the injurious effects of which I am anxious to press upon public attention, was, I know, framed with the best and kindest motives. Events which could hardly have been calculated upon have rendered that injurious, which was intended, if not calculated, to be serviceable."

We shall endeavour to give the reader a succinct sketch of the opinions of Capt. Badenach: our space, we fear, will not permit us to discuss them.

The defects in the Indian military system are attributed by Capt. Badenach (who confines himself chiefly to the Bengal army) to its original organization in 1796; and he thinks them excusable on account of the peculiar state of affairs at that period. The chief defects were, its unavoidable tendency to occasion a paucity of officers, and its faulty scheme of promotion. With respect to the first, the number of officers to each corps was even then too small;* but the army had at that time no commissariat and other necessary departments, which drain the Company's line to officer them to such a degree that, at the commencement of a campaign, a Bengal regiment (1,000 strong) has often no more than one field officer, one captain, and six or seven subalterns. This diminution of the number of officers with their corps arises also from the drafts for irregular corps and staff appointments: the former Capt. B. does not consider, generally speaking, as "a very efficient or even safe sort of troops to employ." With regard to the staff appointments, although he is sensible that the employment of officers in such situations proceeds from the most liberal principles (as the Company cannot confer either honours or high-rank on their military servants), yet he thinks other means might be found to reward officers which would be equally to their own satisfaction and less prejudicial to the service. He proposes to raise veteran regiments and attach the staff officers exclusively to them; such corps would also afford a provision for the native soldiery. After taking away such officers, he recommends that the army should be levelled, and future removals from one corps to another be disallowed: staff employ to be, as at present, open to all the service. He adds:

The only fair plan is to let officers take their chance with their corps, as is done in all other services, and why not in this? We need go no further for a model than that army with which the Company's is constantly obliged to act; the success that has attended its operations against the finest troops in the world, is the surest test of the efficiency of its organization.

The greatest defect in the system of 1796, according to Capt. Badenach, was that which impeded promotion, and which, though lately much amended, still keeps an officer too long in the junior ranks, whereby he is often unfit for service when promotion arrives.

With very few exceptions the junior field officers have been from twenty-five to thirty years in India, and the seniors from forty-five to fifty years, a period of time after which few, very few, men in any climate, but particularly in India, are capable of

* In 1796, the same number of officers was fixed for a native regiment of two battalions, sixteen hundred men, as in the King's service for a regiment amounting to six or seven hundred. At present there are but twelve hundred and one efficient officers to the whole regular army of two hundred thousand. Not more, in fact, than one efficient European officer to one hundred and sixty-five men.

of much exertion. Zeal for the service will often be found almost the only necessary quality the officers will retain, and blame is frequently attached to the individual, which a little more discrimination and closer examination of facts would have attributed to the real cause, an improper organization, that places it out of the power of the individual either to advance himself in the service, or to get out of it till long after he is unfit for it. And as long as this system is, as heretofore, undeviatingly adhered to, almost all the generals, colonels, and many of the field officers, will be found totally unfit for active field service.

The injurious effects of this part of the system are particularly described by Capt. B. : Company's officers are superseded by those in his Majesty's service far their juniors in standing ; and the former are shut out from high military honours, to which they have the strongest claims, owing to their not being able to reach the prescribed rank of major-general, though "many of the lieutenant-colonels have served upwards of *forty-five years*," some of whom have been doing the duty of general officers for more than ten years. The following remarks upon this head are the *strongest* in the book :

The officers are now, in 1826, much more backward in promotion, and have in every respect much worse prospects, than they had in 1796. In a word, this system is so much at variance with the regulations of his Majesty's service and British feeling, that it cannot possibly be continued much longer. To attempt it might be perhaps hazardous, for ambition is in its qualities as elastic and searching for an outlet as steam in its most condensed shape ; and any power that attempts to keep it too closely confined, must, in point of duration, be extremely uncertain, not to dwell on the risk to be apprehended from an explosion.

In point of pecuniary remuneration, he admits that the liberality of the Court of Directors is conspicuous ; but this, he justly observes, is not the proper stimulant ; rank, honours, and liberal retirement, are the real rewards for military men. He proposes that promotion be regulated in the Indian as in the King's service ; that regiments be independent of each other ; and that officers rise by regimental seniority to the rank of lieutenant-colonel inclusive. The reason for the existing system of stopping regimental promotion when a majority is reached, Capt. B. shews to be deduced from a recommendation of Lord Cornwallis in 1794, upon grounds which, though plausible when stated, were futile even at the time it was adopted.

Capt. Badenach next treats upon that part of the system relating to retirement. He prefixes to the chapter on this subject, two tabular statements, from whence it appears that in the Bengal army 201 officers, out of 3,633 remaining in that establishment in 1796, or who entered it between that year and 1820, retired to Europe on the pension of their rank, after twenty-two years' service in India ; and that the remainder, or ninety-five per cent., have died or been killed, or were invalided in India, or resigned the service without any emolument from the Company, or remained in India for want of means to return to Europe on retirement. "Such," he adds, "is a true picture of the Bengal army, and an examination into the state of those of the other presidencies would, I am certain, produce nearly similar results."

The amount of the pension list he next shews to be insignificant, compared with the number of officers, the arduousness of their services, the addition which those services have made to the Company's revenue, and especially in comparison with the amount of the retired full-pay and half-pay lists of his Majesty's army : so that in spite of the obvious policy of encouraging exertions in the debilitating climate of India, no encouragement is held out to the Company's officer, either in respect to rank, honours, or ultimate provision for retirement.

ment. The regulations connected with retirement in the Company's service have a tendency to induce individuals to cling to the service longer than they are fit for the active duties of a military life. On the contrary, every inducement should be afforded calculated to counteract a disposition so prejudicial to the public service. Capt. B. proposes a plan to induce officers to declare more speedily than at present their wish to retire, instead of taking three, four, and five years of absence first. The addition to the pension list by such a plan would be defrayed by a saving in the furlough allowance list.

His plan is to establish a scale of contributions, on the different ranks in the service, for the formation of a fund to induce officers to retire, who are entitled to do so, but to whom the pensions offer not a sufficient temptation. For the details of this plan we refer to the work: it would, he conceives, be easy of adoption, agreeable to all ranks of the army, and attended with little comparative expense to the Company.

A plan upon the same principle has been, we understand, very recently developed at Calcutta, and it is probable that its details will soon be laid before government.

Capt. Badenach next touches upon the important question as to the policy of transferring the Indian army to the crown, one of the necessary consequences of which would be the amalgamation of the armies of the three presidencies into one. Sir John Malcolm, we recollect, in his *Political History*, considers this measure not only easy of execution, and beneficial in its effects, but "absolutely necessary;" Capt. Badenach, on the other hand, can discover scarcely any advantages likely to result from it, whilst its disadvantages, he conceives, would be many and serious. The chief objections he urges are these, and they are not to be hastily overruled:

It must be quite clear in a political point of view, if ever we are so unfortunate as to be obliged to depend on one part of our native army to quell any disturbance in another, the less they know of each other, the more decidedly and readily they will act. This of itself ought to be a strong reason for keeping the armies of the different presidencies as distinct as possible. Again, if all our military force were formed into one army, and corps raised at one presidency sent to do duty at another, it would take the men such a distance from their native districts as to preclude the possibility of their getting the usual leave of absence to visit their families, without which indulgence, men of good caste would not continue to enter our service. It would, besides, be attended with enormous expense, by making it necessary to raise the pay of the native part of the Bengal army to the same scale as the Madras, which on account of the difference of the price of labour and provisions is necessarily high. It would take the patronage for Madras and Bombay almost entirely from the governor and commander-in-chief of those presidencies, and throw it into the hands of the governor-general and commander-in-chief in India; and instead of being of service to the officers of the Madras and Bombay presidencies, by allowing them to be on the staff in Bengal, the probabilities are, that it would have quite a contrary effect, and that those presidencies would be inundated with staff officers from Bengal.

Capt. B. concludes his remarks on this branch of the subject by a kind of *argumentum ad hominem*:

I should respectfully press the consideration on the honourable the Court of Directors, that the defects in the organization of their army which I have already so fully pointed out, might be no inefficient argument in the hands of his Majesty's ministers to propose the union of the services under the direct control of the crown. They must see how the two different systems act, and can appreciate the merits and demerits of both.

In his last chapter but one, our author develops a plan for the establish-

ment of a military police in India, to be formed out of the veteran corps; recommended in a preceding part of the work. Whatever may be the advantages (and they are not inconsiderable) which would attend such a measure, we hope never to see it adopted. There can be no doubt that, in the present condition of the natives of India, a military police is the best adapted for keeping them in tranquillity and subjection; but soldiers are too apt to forget that their profession, honourable as it is, must ever be regarded with jealousy by a government which desires to engraft civil institutions upon the country under its rule. Without disputing one single argument which Capt. B. offers on behalf of this plan, we repeat that we hope it will not be adopted.

His concluding chapter is devoted to a consideration of the character and qualities of the native soldiery, which he depicts in favourable colours. In his suggestions for the amelioration of their condition, we fully concur, especially in that for the abolition of flogging. This punishment is rarely inflicted; but Capt. Badenach recommends that the lash should be wholly disused. "I do not make this recommendation," he observes, "on theoretical, but the most practical grounds; I know that there is no necessity for it, that it needlessly degrades individuals, and hurts the feelings of the population." He clearly demonstrates that the crimes punished by flogging in the King's army, are principally such as the peculiar habits of the Hindus restrain them from committing; and he suggests that expulsion from the service, extra duties, degradation of rank and reduction of pay, and lastly (that which a Hindu dreads more than death itself), hard labour, might be substituted for flogging, the mental agony attending which, especially where the subject is a Brahmin, renders the corporal pain nothing in comparison. If the abolition of this punishment in the Indian army were proclaimed by the government, Capt. B. thinks it would be felt as a great boon.

We should have been glad to examine this work more in detail, but the unusual influx of temporary matter this month has narrowed the space allotted to our review department. Our military readers will doubtless satisfy themselves as to the merits of the work by a perusal of its contents. Its defects of style, arrangement, &c. are amply atoned for by the apology in the preface, wherein the author states that he has been for nearly twenty years employed in active military service, and that this is his maiden publication. We trust that, for the sake of all parties, his work will receive due attention.

Recollections of Egypt. By the BARONESS VON MINUTOLI. London, 8vo., 1827. Pp. 279.

THIS interesting volume is from the pen of a lady, whose husband is known to the world by a work on Egypt possessing strong claims to the attention of scientific readers. The "*Recollections of Egypt*" are not, however, devoid of pretensions to be associated with the Baron's more elaborate publication; they fill up *hiatus* therein, which are sometimes thought to be beneath the dignity of science to supply; they moreover, as the fair writer observes, are calculated to interest persons of her own sex, and we would add, that it is pleasing to readers of both sexes to remark the manner in which objects in Egypt strike a female mind, and the reflexions they suggest therein.

The Baroness thus describes the extraordinary scenes which occurred to her upon landing at Alexandria:—

It would be difficult to express the sensations which I experienced, when for the first time, I passed through the streets of Alexandria. It would require the talents of a Hogarth

Hogarth to paint all the various scenes of this magic-lantern. What bustle, what confusion, is in these narrow streets, continually blocked up by an innumerable multitude of camels, mules, and asses; the cries of their drivers, incessantly calling to the passengers to take care of their naked feet; the vociferations and grimaces of the jugglers; the splendid costumes of the Turkish functionaries; the picturesque habit of the Bedouins, their long beards, and the grave and regular countenances of the Arabs; the nudity of some Santons, round whom the crowd throngs; the multitude of negro slaves; the howlings of the female mourners accompanying a funeral procession, tearing their hair and beating their breasts, by the side of the noisy train of a marriage; the cries of the Muezzins from the tops of the minarets, summoning the people to prayers; lastly, the afflicting picture of wretches dying with misery and want, and troops of savage dogs which pursue and harass you;—all this every moment arrests the progress and attracts the attention of the astonished traveller.

After her arrival at Cairo, the Baroness paid a visit to the Pyramids, and had the courage to enter the largest. She remarks, like other travellers, that when these monuments are seen at a distance, they do not appear of colossal size; it is only when they are approached closely that the immensity of their proportions can be perceived by comparison with other objects.

The Baroness and her party left Cairo for Upper Egypt in December 1821, when the country was clothed in all the beauty of spring.

On arriving at Thebes, the fair writer visited the magnificent remains in this part of Egypt. She thus speaks of the ruins of Carnac:—

The style of this architecture is grave, like the character and manners of the people that adopted it; every part of it is at once simple, striking, austere, and sublime. It is evident, that the religious ideas of the Egyptians, respecting the immortality of the soul and its return to this world, induced them to give their buildings that solidity and grand character, which distinguished their works from those of the Greeks and the other nations of antiquity. They wished to survive posterity; they fancied they were working for eternity; and yet these magnificent monuments, these temples dedicated to the protecting divinities of nature, if they have not already crumbled into dust like the hand which raised them, they are nevertheless in a state of decay, which proves the impotence of man to eternize the works of his hand:—such is the general lot of things here below! It is among the ruins of Thebes that all kinds of worldly ambition, even the most noble of those which inflame genius and imagination, are reduced to their true value;—it is there that we should come to meditate on the destiny of nations, and on the nothingness of the powers of the earth. Yet, while we are impressed with the inutility of the efforts of man in his struggle with time, the contemplation of these ruins is far from inspiring complete discouragement,—and we feel conscious that the being capable of such sublime conceptions, and of such mighty labours, is called to higher destinies and a more noble ambition. Here Genius survives Destruction, and like the phoenix of the fable, reviving from its ashes, the soul soars victorious from the bosom of the tomb to the abode of immortality.

At Damietta, the Baroness had an opportunity afforded her of visiting the interior of the harem of the Aga. As this is a scene which no male traveller can describe, the account given by the fair author will doubtless be read with interest. We subjoin a portion of it:—

I was accompanied by the lady of the Portuguese physician, who understood a little Italian and Arabic, and who was to act as my interpreter. The two wives, as well as the two daughters of the Aga, seated themselves next to me, while the slaves ranged themselves in a half circle before us, with their arms crossed on the breast, and preserving a respectful silence. As all these women spoke only Turkish, we needed a second interpreter, who, in her turn, understood only Turkish and Arabic, so that what I said in Italian had to be translated into Arabic, and the Arabic into Turkish; thus, to understand each other, we had need of three languages, and two interpreters. It

It may readily be supposed that the conversation could not go on fluently, as we depended on the good will and talents of our interpreters: in fact, the *qui pro quo* resulting from the bad translations of our questions and answers were truly comic, and excited so much glee that loud and repeated bursts of laughter soon established a good understanding between us. The oldest of the consorts of the Aga, however, maintained a dignified gravity, while the other, who was much younger, and of an animated and interesting countenance, repeated, with extreme volubility, the most insignificant questions, and did not fail to examine the whole arrangement of my toilette. They asked me many questions respecting the women in my country: as for Europe, I believe, they entertained very vague notions of it, and when I told them that our husbands had but one wife and no slaves, they looked at one another, undetermined whether to applaud or laugh at this custom.

They were nearly all natives of Syria, Circassia, and Georgia, and I had thus leisure to survey these beauties who enjoy so much celebrity. They undoubtedly merit their reputation; I can, however, tell my fair country-women, to comfort them, and to do justice to truth, that Europe certainly can boast of beauties equal to those of the East. Those whom I had now the pleasure of seeing, had the most agreeable countenances, and delicate and regular features; but what most attracted my admiration was their hair, which fell in waving and natural curls down to their waist. They had each preserved their national costume, which agreeably varied this pretty parterre; nor had they adopted the tresses of the Egyptian women, which rather disfigure than improve the figure. They had exquisitely beautiful teeth, but the clearness and bloom of youth were banished from their complexion; they all had a languid air, and I did not find among them that *embonpoint* which I had expected to meet. Perhaps their sedentary mode of life, and the destructive climate of Egypt, have contributed to tarnish the lustre of their charms.

The Baroness makes the following remarks upon the condition of women in Egypt:—

All that I have been able to learn by personal observation, and what I was told by several Levantine ladies, concurs to prove that the situation of the women in the East is not so unhappy as we generally fancy it to be. The different races and sects, of which the present population of Egypt is composed, have, it is true, this in common, that they shut up their women; and the Copts, though Christians, observe this custom with much more rigour than even the Arabs themselves: but this privation of liberty is only imaginary, and extends no farther than to prohibit them from appearing in public without a veil, which is a kind of cloak of black silk, which hides their form and their face in a frightful manner, and to exclude them from the society of the men. They are, notwithstanding, perfect mistresses at home, and exclusively command the slaves in their own service, who, in spite of the favours of their master, are no less dependent on the wife than on the latter. As their dwelling is always separated from that of their husband, they have a right to prevent him from entering it, by placing before the door a pair of slippers, which is a sign that they have company. The husband, who dares not appear in the presence of another person's wife, is obliged to respect this indication; and the German proverb, which says, "that a man is under his wife's slipper," may be perfectly applicable in the East. When they wish to visit any of their friends or relations, the husband has not the right of opposing them; and, attended by a faithful slave, they sometimes absent themselves from home for several weeks together.

Under the pretext of these visits, I was assured that they allow themselves incredible liberty; in spite of their veils, and the locks under which they are shut up, they find means to indemnify themselves for this constraint; and it is here that we learn the truth of that maxim, which says: "That virtue protects itself; and that good principles are the best dowry of a female."

The extracts we have made will give our readers some idea of what they may expect from these "Recollections," which are very pleasingly written, and well translated.

VARIETIES.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of the society was held on Wednesday, Sept. 6th. The Hon. J. H. Harington, Esq., the president, in the chair. The following gentlemen were elected members: Dr. Burke, Captain Coulthard, Captain Crisp, the Rev. Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Aydall. Professor Jameson was elected an honorary member. The annual accounts of the society were submitted, shewing, after the payment of the cost of publishing the fifteenth volume of the *Researches*, a balance in the society's favour of 1,381 rupees. Dr. Burlini was elected assistant-librarian and assistant to the superintendent of the museum. A number of spare copies of the Society's *Researches*, subsequent to the fifth volume, remaining, it was resolved, that the members of the society should be supplied with all or any of the volumes upon their application to the secretary. The following communications were received at this meeting:

A translation by Capt. Low, of a Burman manuscript, containing lists of dynasties of princes who ruled in India, and the Peninsula.

Notice of a new locality of gypsum in the Indo-Gangetic tract of the Himalaya, by Capt. Herbert.

Extracts from a native history of Asam, kept by the Baelongs or priests of the ancient religion, and denominated the Baelong Potli, by D. Scott, Esq.

Account of Aracan, with a history of the province, by Capt. Paton. This and the preceding were communicated by government.

A memoir respecting some new and improved methods of determining the difference of longitude between two terrestrial meridians, by Capt. Grant.

The chronological tables, translated by Capt. Low, purported to be of Burman kings, but the designation of Kumadi (the Coosy), Megatha or Magadha (Behar) and Mithila (or Terhut) and Baranasi (Benares), leave no doubt of the applicability of the greater portion to the continent of India. As far as may be inferred from the dates assigned, the list may be supposed to commence from the twenty-ninth year of the Burman era, or about A.D. 1139. As the list, however, is unaccompanied by any comments, and the individual Indian names are, to all appearance, strangely metamorphosed by the Burman chronologer, so as not to be recognizable, except in a very few instances, it does not seem likely to throw much light on the chronology of India. In some places, however, an affinity may be

traced between parts of these tables and those published by Wilford and Buchanan. Towards the close, some dynasties of Burman princes occur, and two families, one of seven and the other of twenty-nine princes, appear as sovereigns of Chekkein Myoote, or Ava, between A.D. 1336, and Alom Mendra, or Alompra. The royal house of Prome was founded in 1262, and continued through twenty-one princes. The list of these is followed by five princes of Pegu, but whether these are continuous with the Prome family does not appear. There is also a list of eight princes of Wakroo or Martaban, which was founded in 1332. Wakroo is a ruined town south of Martaban.

The notice of a new locality of gypsum, by Capt. Herbert, was a continuation of his former communication to the society, on the occurrence of this mineral in the Himalaya. He then reported having observed it in three different sites: first, a mile and a half beyond the stalactitic cave (Sansar Dhara), in the Doon; second, in the bed of a stream, which falls into the Sansar Dhara nullah; and third, in the ascent from the village of Rajpooor to the hamlet of Jura Pani. The situation now discovered is in the ascent from the north side of which Masuri Tiba is one of the peaks. It is found in some quantity in clay slate formation, succeeding to mica slate, and occurs in an anomalous superficial mass, and associated with a sulphuretted limestone, occasionally of a black colour, which, in the immediate contact of the gypsum, passes into a black fragmentary rock, non-effervescent, yet giving out the odour of sulphuretted hydrogen, when rubbed or struck. The gypsum of the Himalaya occurs under circumstances in some respects peculiar, and is the more interesting on their account.

The history of Asam appears to be the same as that adverted to by Buchanan in the *Annals of Oriental Literature*. The record commences about the middle of the tenth century, when Khunlong and Khunlai, two brothers, descended, says the chronicle, from heaven by an iron ladder, and founded a family, which ruled over the countries of Mungram and Mungri. The thirteenth in descent from Khunlai, Sukapha, was the first prince of the Asam dynasty, in the year 1189 A.D. This history therefore still leaves the early state of Asam undetermined. It is clear from the names of the princes, that they were foreigners, probably from some of the mountains between Asam and China, whence to the present day, as in the case

of the Sindhos, irruptions of barbarous tribes have often occurred. Prior to the date of this invasion, there can be little doubt that the western part of Asam, and the course of the Brahmaputra to the Brahmakund, was Hindu, as the scene of numerous legends and traditions, and bearing throughout Sanscrit designations. It was not till the beginning of the seventeenth century; that the ruling family again became Hindu, in the person of Gadadhar Singh, the thirty-second sovereign. The annals of Asam present no very favourable specimen of the principles or policy of the court, and are filled with instances of treachery and assassination, a great part of which was, no doubt, owing to the constitution of the government, as well as its barbaric character, and the struggles for authority amongst the chief officers, and especially between the Bura Goheins, or hereditary ministers, and the kings.

This history of Arracan begins in A. D. 701, and continues through a series of a hundred and twenty native princes to 1784, when the country was conquered by the Burmese; after which, it records the events that occurred under nine Burman viceroys, to the beginning of the late war. According to these annals the kingdom of Arracan at different times, under warlike and able princes, comprehended Ava, and extended over part of China on the one hand, and Bengal on the other; but these brilliant periods were of short duration, and usurpation, dethronement, murder, and foreign and civil war, constitute the bulk of the narrative.

The object of Captain Grant's memoir is to explain and illustrate several methods of determining the longitude from observations of the moon: it is divided into three sections. The first and third of these comprehend some methods which are founded on the principle of determining the moon's right ascension at any instant of time, either from observations of the transit of her enlightened limb, compared with the transit of one or more stars on either side of her; or secondly, to determine from the observed and corrected altitudes of the moon's centre, at any instant of time, her distance in right ascension from the sun, or from one or more stars, and consequently her right ascension at that time. The second part treats of an improved method of computing the apparent time of the moon's passage over the meridian of Greenwich, or any other place whose longitude is known. The methods proposed by Capt. Grant are partly derived from his communications with Mr. Fallows, the astronomer at the Cape, and are partly the result of his own experience; and although founded on principles generally known and adopted, are considered by him as superior to any

in practice, which all involve errors of more or less extent.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*]

MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, the 14th September, Mr. Wilson, the vice-president, in the chair. Mr. Pearson and Dr. J. Macgregor were elected members, and Sir James Macgregor and Dr. A. Duncan, jun. honorary members of the Society. Several works on natural history and medical science were presented to the Library by Mr. Young of Aurungabad, and several preparations to the Museum, by Dr. J. Tytler. A case of *Lepra Mercurialis*, by Dr. Johnston; remarks on the Papeeta, or St. Ignatius' Bean, by Mr. Vauquell, of Calcutta; and notice of the Chutwan, a febrifuge bark used amongst the natives, by Mr. Scott, were submitted to the Society.

The papeeta, although not used by the natives of Western India in spasmodic cholera, is administered by them in affections of similar site and character. The drug is rather scarce, and the plant that produces it not indigenous in that part of India. The drug is described by Eowreiro, in his account of Cochin-China, and its medicinal properties are enumerated. The plant from which the bean, or more correctly the fruit, is obtained, is also described by him as a large shrub, with a stem like the trunk of a tree, long climbing branches, and large leaves. The nut and its powers have been long known in Europe, and accounts of it are to be found in various botanical and medical works, and in different volumes of the *Philosophical Transactions*.

The chutwan is a large tree, said to be common in Bengal, the bark of which is exceedingly bitter. It is used most commonly for the cure of chronic rheumatism, but is also employed as a febrifuge. The decoction or infusion yields a copious precipitate with infusion of gall-nuts.

The chief object of the Society's attention was a paper on the medical topography of Arracan, and the sickness which prevailed among the European troops stationed there in 1825, by Mr. Stevenson. The views taken in which correspond with those of a former communication on the same subject, noticed in our report of the Society's proceedings on the 1st July, and which we observe is one of the articles in the volume of the transactions announced for publication. The country, Mr. Stevenson remarks, consists chiefly of low marshy land overrun with jungle, presenting here and there a cultivated plain, skirted with wood, and more or less surrounded with water: the soil is general is argillaceous, but in the vicinity of the hills, and along the rivers, lakes, and nullahs, a rich loam prevails. The capital

capital of Aracan is surrounded by hills with very little interruption, and amongst the hills are several lakes and marshes, communicating with a number of small streams running between low muddy banks, which are overflowed in the flood-tide. Rain falls in Aracan, it may be said, throughout the year, as showers are frequent in February, March, and April, and the periodical rains continue from June to November. In November and December also occasional, and sometimes heavy showers occur. The fall between the 1st of June and the end of October, is stated by Mr. Stevenson at 196 inches, during which period the greater portion of the country was under water. The topical character of Aracan, and its effects upon the health of the troops, agree so exactly with Dr. Lind's account of the coast of Guinea, that his description of the latter might, with the change of name, be applied to the former. He describes the coast of Guinea as overrun with vegetation, presenting only a few spots of cultivation, surrounded with a thick and impenetrable jungle. The soil is marshy, and watered by numerous streams, whose oozy banks are covered with sedges and noxious weeds. At Calechon, about thirty miles up the Gambia, of fifty-one Europeans stationed there, two-thirds died of fever and dysentery during the rains; and none, it is to be observed, were taken ill till after the rains began. Of the first detachment of British troops, also, which occupied the country of Galan, one-half were carried off soon after the commencement of the rains. The effects of the climate and locality of the country are, therefore, considered by Mr. S. to be fully accounted for, and to have been most fatal in proportion as the men were most exposed to them, by the nature of the ground they occupied, and by the greater or less success with which their quarters were kept dry and free from the effluvia, rising from swamp and mire beneath the floors of the raised huts in which they were cantoned. The occurrence of fever on the elevated situations about Aracan was not incompatible with the general conclusion of its being the result of local causes, as the hills were in general covered with luxuriant vegetation, and all were closely surrounded by jungle and morass. That the great mortality in Aracan was attributable to the quality of the food, Mr. S. considers destitute of proof; and he cites a remarkable instance in proof of its being wholly the consequence of climate, in the case of the two detachments ordered off from Aracan on the capture of that town, the one to Ramree, the other to Telak. In the former were eight companies of Europeans, and in the latter two; both were supplied from the same source, and with the same kind of provisions. The Ramree

party, after proceeding by sea to Ramree and Sandoway, and enjoying a refreshing cruise of six weeks, returned with the loss of two men, of whom one was an invalid at the time of setting out. The Telak party proceeded by an inland navigation, and thence made several marches after the rains had partially set in, the consequence of which exposure to the climate was, that almost the whole number were attacked with fever, which proved fatal in many cases, whilst those who recovered gained strength but slowly, and were very subject to relapse. On the subject of the treatment of the Aracan fever, Mr. Stevenson's chief reliance was placed in the use of the lancet, and he considers the employment of bark, wine, and opium, to have been productive of more harm than good. —*Ibid.*

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

A meeting of the members of this society was held at their house in Bruton Street, on the 7th March, Lord Auckland, vice-president, in the chair, when the Marquess of Lansdown was unanimously elected president, and the Rev. Dr. Raffles a member of the council of the society, in the place of the late lamented Sir T. S. Raffles. It was announced from the chair, that the museum of the society, consisting of extensive and well-arranged collections in every branch of zoology, is now open to the inspection of the members and their friends. The society's establishment in the Regent's Park was also stated to be in considerable forwardness; and the gardens, laid out in promenades, shrubberies, &c., with aviaries, sheds, and enclosures for some of the more interesting animals, ponds for fish and wild fowl, &c. &c. are expected to be opened early in the ensuing summer. Much attraction is anticipated to the inhabitants and visitors of the metropolis, from both these establishments.

SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Mr. Florence, a land surveyor, and Mr. Rumker, the astronomical companion of the late governor, Sir Thomas Brisbane, are about to set out on a scientific expedition: their instructions are to measure one or more degrees of the meridian in the latitude of Liverpool Plains. There have not been as yet made public any observations of this nature, in a higher southern latitude than from 22 to 23 degrees. — [*Australian*, Aug. 26.]

ARABIC PERIODICAL PUBLICATION.

A work of an entirely novel nature will be commenced in July next, at Paris, and will be continued monthly, namely, a Journal of Science and the Useful Arts, in the Arabic language, for the benefit of

the East. It is to treat of mathematics (comprehending astronomy) geography, natural philosophy, chemistry, geology, (comprehending mineralogy) medicine, surgery, anatomy, agriculture, &c.

SIR HUDSON LOWE'S MEMOIR.

Sir Hudson Lowe, it is stated in the newspapers, has sent for publication to this country, a memoir of all the transactions at St. Helena, while he was governor of that island, and the custodian of Buonaparte.

CHARACTERS OF THE COURT OF AVA.

The *King* is mild, good-natured, and obliging, impatient of restraint, and incapable of close application. He is playful in his manners, addicted to favoritism, but fickle in his attachments: devoted to his queen, and wholly subject to her influence. He is fond of spectacles, theatrical performances, elephant-catching, and boat-races. He is not bigoted to his religion, but complies occasionally with its forms. Although usually gentle, he is subject to sudden gusts of passion, which, though transient, are not unfrequently fatal to the objects that have excited them. He is possessed of moderate natural talent, but is quick in catching an idea, forming an opinion, and giving a decision. He is partial to Europeans, desirous of encouraging an intercourse with them, and of benefiting the country by their skill and science. He is rather unfavourable to Mahomedans, and not influenced by the Bauddha priests, but a great patron of Brahmins—a firm believer in judicial astrology, magic, and alchemy, and a very great dabbler in experiments professing to discover the means of promoting vigour and prolonging life.

The *Queen*, having been elevated from an inferior rank, is very tenacious of her dignity: she is haughty and implacable—a woman of talent, but avaricious, and bigotedly attached to the religion of Bauddha. Although imperious, her manners are not devoid of grace, and she is capable of assuming an amiable and condescending deportment. She is by no means well disposed towards Europeans, nor pleased with the favour which the king is inclined to shew them.

The *Heir Apparent* is a fine boy of about twelve years of age: he is the son of a former queen, deceased. Notwithstanding his youth he feels his importance, and governs his officers and dependants with very manlike authority. He is shrewd, sprightly, and active, and promises well, if not spoiled by the servility of his adherents, and the habits of an eastern court.

The *Princess Su*, is the only daughter of his majesty, and is the child of the present queen: she is four or five years of age,

the idol of her parents, and in every respect a spoiled child.

The *Queen's Aunt* is an inmate of the palace, and a very confidential and important personage: much cannot be said in her favour: she has all the defects of an humble origin aggravated by the sense of influence, and unvarnished by the assumption of manners dignified or courteous.

The *Queen's Brother* is a character still more important; his title is that of *Great Prince*, and it is not insignificant. He is the superintendent of the privy council, acting public minister of state, and a sort of factotum to the king. His character is not dissimilar from his sister's, but his person possesses no attractions, and his manners are repulsive and austere. He does not want capacity for conducting public business after the Burmese fashion, and his cruelty, which is one of his characteristics, is probably of use to him in this respect. He is full of illiberal and narrow-minded prejudices, and consequently no friend to foreigners.

His wife, the *Princess of Salen*, is a smart active little woman, and has considerable influence with her husband and the queen. Ladies are no cyphers at the court of Ava.

The *Queen's Brother-in-law* was the last Viceroy of Rangoon: he is said to have laboured as a common cooly before the elevation of his wife's sister to royalty, it is no marvel, therefore, that he is not very brilliant; but he is a good-natured easy man, and wholly governed by the creatures about him. The king has no great respect for him, but he has the support of the queen: however, he holds no office, nor was he employed during the war.

The daughter of the last-mentioned personage by the queen's sister, who is dead, is entitled the *Princess of Mek-ha-rü*, and is a lady of great influence at court. She is a prodigious favourite with both king and queen, to whom she utters her sentiments without reserve. She is supposed not to be very scrupulous in her conduct, but this may be only Burman scandal. At all events, she is a very interesting woman, shrewd, sensible, witty, and high-spirited. It is said that she will probably be made a queen, but we do not profess to understand how queens are made at Ava.

The *Prince of Mek-ha-rü* is uncle to the king: he is a great metaphysician, and deep in ecclesiastical interests.

The Brother of the king, whom we call the *Prince of Sarawadi*, more properly *Tha-va-tee*, is better known to Europeans than most of the members of the court, as he has always shewn a favourable leaning towards them, and has had several in his employ. He does not seem to have benefited by the intercourse, as he

he is addicted to gambling and various profligate habits. In other respects he resembles the king his brother, being good-natured and playful.

The *Princesses of Toung-gnuc, Pagan, and Shengdoung* are the sisters of the king; the elder, who, according to the Burmese custom, is unmarried, is a woman of considerable talent—the second, who is married to the Prince of Pagan, is also possessed of abilities, and is smart and high-spirited: but is addicted to some unlady-like habits, as chewing opium and smoking tobacco. The third is married to her half-brother, Prince *Myen-zuin*, and is an amiable character, though of rather juvenile propensities.

The *Queen Mother* is the second wife of the present king's father, and is a kind, charitable, motherly old woman, something of a devotee, but not intolerant.

The *Prince of Myen-zuin* and *Prince Kodau-oo*, are sons of the queen's mother, and half-brothers of the king. The first is subject to a paralytic affection, on which account he is not admitted into the palace—he is amiable and intelligent, and partial to Europeans. The second is not much known, but he is expected to rise in consequence by his marriage with the daughter of the queen's brother.

The *Princes of Ramhya (Rainree)*, and *Thandira (Sandoway)*, are half-brothers of the king by inferior mothers—they are not unlike the king in disposition, and are great favourites at court. They were both much employed during the war.

All these, with the exception perhaps of the queen's brother-in-law, are considered of the blood royal, and are privileged to use gilt umbrellas.

The remaining members of the Burmese court, of whom we have received some brief descriptions, are of less dignified birth or connexion than those we have previously noticed; but they took a more active share generally in the late transactions, being the leading civil and military officers of the state. It may be advisable to premise the purport of the titles.

The *Woon-gyees* are literally “the Bearers of the Great Burthen,” and, in fact, are the ministers of state; they are four in number, and form, with the princes of the blood, the Loto, or grand council.

A *Woon* or *W'ondock*, is a sort of assistant councillor: he sits and deliberates in the Loto, but has no vote.

The *Atwen-woons*, are the privy councillors of the king, and employed by him, at pleasure, in the interior administration of the kingdom; there are four of them, and also four *Woons*: the following are the principal persons in these three grades:

Kyee Woongyee, with whom we came latterly most frequently in contact, is

described as intelligent, brave, and prudent—uniformly opposed to the war, but exhibiting more talents in the field than any commander employed in it.

Hau-len Woongyee was the acting *Woongyee* at Ava during the war, until he was sent down to Maloon: he is a careful old man, but solely desirous of securing the favour of the king and queen, no matter on what terms; he is as avaricious as abject, and, although scrupulously attached to the ceremonies of his religion, is wholly destitute of moral or religious principles: he is garrulous and sycophantic, but unworthy of trust, and notoriously treacherous and cruel.

Mayoo Woongyee was the first magistrate, or police governor of Ava, when the war commenced, but succeeded the last named chief as acting *Woongyee* at Ava, for some time—he is not now employed—his manners are dignified, but his propensities disgusting—he is naturally of an open and kindly temper, but was rendered selfish and unfeeling by a long course of police administration—he has always paid assiduous court to the king and queen.

La-kating Woongyee ratified the treaty at Yandaboo, but was not long in office: he is a quiet man, of moderate abilities.

Moun-kuang, is only lately made a *Woongyee*: he is newly appointed viceroy of Rangoon, and is believed to be well qualified for the station. He enjoys the entire confidence of the king and queen, and is said to be a man of active talents and liberal mind, and friendly to foreign intercourse.

The *Queen's Woon Moun-gwa* has been lately made *Woongyee*; he was a strenuous supporter of the war, and opposed pacific measures to the last.

Atwen Woon Mung-za was lieutenant-general in Arracan throughout the war: he is one of the most intelligent and liberal-minded men about the court of Ava; he is fully sensible of the superiority of Europeans, and desirous of encouraging the introduction of their arts and sciences.

Atwen Woon Mounng kyan-nying was acting *Atwen Woon* during the war, but not decidedly of the war party—he is equally liberal and intelligent with the preceding, but more gentle in his disposition.

Atwen Woon Mounng-Payouk is a shrewd clever man, but not to be depended on; he has great influence in the palace, and was the real prime minister during the negotiations for peace: he ratified the treaty of Yandaboo in company with the officer named above.

Mounng Shwa Tha, Woon-gyee and prince, although now in disgrace and confinement, is a person of considerable importance: he is a distinguished member of the old royal family, and is secretly be-

friendly by all connected with it and their adherents; he is an object of great dislike to the king and queen and to the queen's party, and this dislike is augmented by their dread of his connexions, as well as of his abilities and ambition. He is said to excel all his countrymen in genius, good sense, and information, but to be designing, avaricious, and unprincipled. He was formerly viceroy of Rangoon.

There are other members of the council or the court, who exercise some influence on the conduct of public affairs in Ava, but those we have recapitulated are the chief, and from this short review of their characters and dispositions we have every reason to anticipate the most favourable results from a further intimacy with these individuals—we have no barriers of caste in this case to overleap, nor any impediment to the interchange of social amenities, arising out of the inveterate distinction of daily and hourly habits. The spirit of the Buddhist religion is decidedly tolerant, and favourable to speculative inquiry; and there is a smartness and inquisitiveness in the Burmese character, that is not common to the inhabitants of Hindostan. Except, therefore, the consequences of that caprice by which every semi-barbarous government is liable to be influenced, we observe nothing in the constitution of the court, or the temperament of the nation, that is unfriendly to a continued and mutually beneficial intercourse between the states. [*Cal. Gov. Gazette.*]

REMEDY FOR THE BITE OF SNAKES.

The following recipe is from the *India Gazette*:—

Take two parts (*dou bhaug*) of sal ammoniac, known in every Indian bazar by the name nowshadur; dissolve in four parts of hot water; the solution is to be poured into a bottle, with the addition of one part of quick-lime or chunam; the bottle is to be corked, and shaken at intervals, during fifteen or twenty minutes, when it is to be allowed to settle, the clear liquid decanted off, and kept in a well closed glass vessel for occasional use. This will be found to supersede the use of eau de luce, which in all cases is useful only in proportion to the quantity of volatile alkali it contains. In case of a bite from a snake, take two tea-spoonsful, or in native language, twelve annas of the above mixture in a small cup of water; repeat shortly afterwards three tea-spoonsful, either more diluted with water or in the same way. Should the person be seized with vertigo or violent tremors, agitation, &c., give three-spoonsful more in a little water, and go on as circumstances dictate. Should the symptoms begin to moderate, the above may be continued in lesser quantities for a little while longer.

THE PRESENT SHAH OF PERSIA.

The Shah is excessively fond of money. It is the custom of the kings of Persia, on the occurrence of any fortunate event, to receive presents from their nobles; thus, when his majesty (who is very fond of the chase and is a capital shot) hits his game, he throws his hand behind him, crying "*Shabaash! sicca bajoklee*," "excellently done! the ducats if you please." But it is alleged against him, that even when he misses, he does the same instinctively; so that then his nobles are also obliged to fill his hand to pacify him for his bad success. Amongst other anecdotes of his avarice the following is related. A khan had won a considerable sum from the shah at chess, and his majesty was rather long in liquidating the debt. At last the khan, losing all patience, begged one day to remind his majesty that a month or two before he had lost a hundred ducats to him. "Very true," said the facetious old monarch: at the same time, holding up his feet to the khan, "here are my soles, Fitty Khan—hit away as long as you please; but, you know, I cannot part with my money." Whenever the children or the ladies in the *underoon* play, the king's bag is placed in the middle, into which the winner pays 10 per cent. of his gains, which all goes to his majesty, who seldom gambles himself.—[*Alexander's Travels in Persia.*]

SKELETON OF A DUGONG.

The *Diadem* transport, lately arrived at Portsmouth, has brought the skeleton of a dugong, erroneously supposed to be a mermaid! It was shot, by Lieut. Emery, near the island of Mombass, and died shortly afterwards. When seen, the body of the animal was raised considerably above the surface of the water, and, from the near appearance of that part of it, to the human form, was then judged to be a mermaid. It was in company with two others, and they were all wading their way, by means of what the spectators called their arms. Lieut. Emery ate some of the flesh, which he describes as being very savoury. He was unable to preserve the skin; but the bones are saved entire. It is rather more than five feet long.

EXAMINATION OF A MUMMY.

On March 10 there was opened, in the Gallery of Egyptian Antiquities, a mummy, which formed part of the fine collection of M. Passalacqua. Her Royal Highness Madame was honoured with her presence the meeting, which was also attended by a number of foreigners and functionaries. After opening the external covering, which was attended with considerable difficulty, the bandages, which formed more than twenty-six turnings, from the head to

to the feet, were unrolled. The body, thanks to the bituminous substances which had been employed in the process of embalming, was in a state of perfect preservation. All the parts were distinct. The nails of the hands were remarkable for their length. The hair was sound, and retained its colour, which was fair. The orbits of the eye were furnished with artificial eye-balls of enamel: this is the second example of the kind, such substitutes for the eyes having only been observed once before. The following circumstances rendered this operation very remarkable:—Two papyrus manuscripts were found; one rolled round the head, the other round the breast, and their perfect preservation enabled M. Champollion, jun. to collect some valuable information from them. It was found that this mummy, which proved to be a female, was the body of Tete-Muthis, the Minervian, or Athenais, the daughter of the Guardian of the little Temple of Isis, at Thebes. There was a necklace, composed of serpents, in rolls, and a cross with a handle, which with the Egyptians was the emblem of divine life. A scarabæus, in a serpentine form, which was placed on the breast, was so surrounded by layers of indurated balsam, that it took more than a quarter of an hour to disengage it, though even boiling water was employed. The date of the existence of this mummy can only be ascertained by an attentive perusal of the manuscripts. We believe, however, that it is more than 3,000 years old, and yet the skin, which is of deep brown colour, has retained its elasticity, and even exhibited humidity in some parts. The bones of the skull were whole. The os spheroides, in the upper part of the pharynx, is broken, to introduce into the interior of the head a considerable quantity of linen. The body was opened by Drs. Delatre and de Verneuil. The description here given, though correct as far as it goes, is necessarily imperfect, and we shall wait with impatience for the report of the investigation, which is to be drawn up by M. Champollion, jun.—*French paper.*

HINDOO ACTORS.

A band of performers from Manipur is now exhibiting in Calcutta, who represent the sports of Krishna with the Gopis—the musicians are men, but the singers are women, and they are dressed as Krishna, Lalita, Visakha, Chitra Rungaderi, Suderi, Champaklata, Vidyaderi, and Indurekha. Their flat-nosed countenances are rather indifferent representations of the beauty of the Gopis. A company of performers, under Haladbur, is also acting with great success at the houses of the Baboos; they represent the Jatas of Vidya Sundar, the

destruction of Sumbha and Nisumbha, and others.—*Samachar Chandrika.*

SHAKESPEARIAN BRIDGE OVER THE ARRAS.

Letters from Persia mention, that it is in contemplation to throw a Shakespearian Bridge over the Arras, the Araxes of antiquity, which maintains to the present day its classical characteristic, and still disdains a bridge. The Arras is a very narrow and rapid stream, being pent in between lofty rocks, by fragments of which it is more or less obstructed, and, consequently, pursues a very winding, turbulent, and dangerous course. It is also subject to sudden rises and falls, and, in winter, it is partially choked up with blocks of ice, so that no bridge of piles or boats can be constructed across the stream. The frequency of earthquakes is fatal to the permanence of any bridge of masonry thrown from rock to rock. But one bridge of this kind has lasted for any time, and that is built on a ridge of rocks; it is termed by the Persians, Khoda Aferid. We cannot doubt, therefore, that the Shakespearian Bridges will be found well suited to the valley of the Arras, and still more so to the Caucasian mountains, where no structure has been yet contrived capable of resisting the violence of the mountain torrents. Facility of access throughout this chain is one of the means best calculated to promote the civilization or subjugation of the ferocious and predatory tribes who tenant its caves, and will, no doubt, be highly acceptable to the local Russian authorities.—*Calcutta Gov. Gaz. Aug. 24.*

CAPT. GRINDLAY'S VIEWS IN WESTERN INDIA.

We have been favoured with a sight of some of the plates, finished and unfinished, and drawings, for the third part of this splendid work, and we assure the patrons of it that they will experience a high degree of gratification when it appears.

PROWESS OF SEPOYS.

Captain Badenach mentions two instances of bravery among the British Sepoys, who served in the expedition to Java, which are astounding: one was a Sepoy (quite a lad) in the left grenadier company of the 6th Volunteer Battalion, who bayoneted ten of the enemy, French, Dutch, and Malays. It was the first action he ever engaged in. The other was a Hindoo of the same corps, who, when attacked by eight armed Malays, shot one, bayoneted three, and took the other four prisoners, and carried them along with him. Neither of these men was stouter in appearance than other Sepoys.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

March 3, 1827.—A General Meeting of the Society was held this day, which was made special, for the purpose of considering some alterations and additions in the Society's Regulations, which had been made by direction of the Council: the Director, H. T. Colebrooke, Esq., in the chair.

The Chairman, having stated the purpose for which the meeting was made special, proceeded to read the proposed emendations in the regulations; and, on the question being put, they were unanimously approved.

The usual business of the meeting was then commenced, by reading the minutes of the last General Meeting, which were confirmed.

John Guillemand, Esq. presented Eusebius's Chronicle, in Armenian, Greek, and Latin; together with an Armenian grammar and dictionary. Thanks were returned to Mr. Guillemand for his donation.

M. Eugène Burnouf, fils, of Paris, and Prof. C. I. C. Reuvens, of Leyden, were elected foreign members of the Society.

A paper on the dialects of the Arabic language, by the late Professor Carlyle, communicated by Wm. Marsden, Esq., was read.

This communication is contained in an extract of a letter from the Professor to Mr. Marsden, who had suggested to him, previous to his departure from England, some inquiries on the subject of the Arabic dialects. Prof. Carlyle states that he had considerable opportunities of comparing the dialects of the Arabic language, in the course of his journey to and from Jerusalem; and he thinks that, if allowance is made for three causes, *viz.* pronunciation, admixture and synonymes, little real difference will be found among the dialects of Arabic; none of which, he is of opinion, varies materially from the language of the Koran. Thanks were returned to Mr. Marsden for this communication.

The reading of Col. Francklin's Tour from Rajmahal to Gour was concluded.

This paper contains, as before noticed, a minute description of the ruins of Gour, and a considerable number of inscriptions in Arabic with translations. Among the buildings particularly described are the Sonah Musjid, or Golden Mosque, of the materials of which several specimens were presented by Col. F. to the Society; and the Nuttin Musjid, or Mosque of a Dancing Girl, of which Col. F. remarks that he has not met with any thing superior to it, either for elegance of style, lightness of construction, or tasteful decoration, in any part of Upper Hindostan visited by him.

Thanks were voted to Col. Francklin for the communication, and the meeting adjourned.

March 15.—The Anniversary Meeting of the Society was held this day, at one o'clock, P. M.; the Right Hon. Charles Watkin Williams Wynn, President, in the chair.

The proceedings of the day commenced by the reading of the minutes of the last general meeting, comprising the alterations, &c. of the regulations, which were now confirmed.

The report of the Council, on the proceedings of the Society since the last anniversary, was then read by the Acting Secretary. The report is as follows:

“REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, *March 15, 1827.*

“The Council of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland has

has the honour of presenting to the members the following report of the Society's proceedings since the last Anniversary Meeting.

"This Society, participating in the general national feeling, and in especial sentiments of regret, has to deplore the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of York, one of its Vice-Patrons.

"It has also to lament another of its Vice-Patrons, the Marquess of Hastings, one of its earliest and most zealous friends.

"In addition to these illustrious individuals, the Society has to regret Sir Stamford Raffles, one of its most distinguished members, who has contributed greatly to the advancement of knowledge by his researches into the history and antiquities of the Malayan Archipelago, and in various branches of natural history.

"The casualties of the year have also deprived the Society of other valuable members. It has received an accession of a considerable number of foreign members.

"Your Council, considering that an extensive library and museum would be of great utility to the Society; and that many of its members, possessing duplicates in their collections or articles of interest, which for other reasons they could conveniently spare, and might be disposed to present to the Society, invited such donations by a circular letter, to which they are desirous of again drawing the attention of members.

"Among donations received during the past year, the Council has particularly to notice a valuable collection of printed papers presented by the Hon. the Court of Directors of the East-India Company. Lieut. Col. Francklin has presented to the Society a large collection of minerals, drawings, sculptures and inscriptions; and B. H. Hodgson, Esq. has sent from Nipal an interesting collection of Bhotia curiosities.

"Your Council had hopes that the Third Part of the *Transactions*, which will complete the First Volume, would be ready for distribution at this Anniversary Meeting. But unavoidable causes of delay have disappointed that expectation. It will, however, be ready for delivery before the close of the present session.

"In connexion with the subject of the Society's printed *Transactions*, the Council has the gratification of announcing that the Hon. Court of Directors of the East-India Company has lent to the Society engraved plates of the Babylonian inscription, procured by Sir H. Jones Bridges, at Hella, in the vicinity of Bagdad, and deposited in the Company's museum. This very curious but yet undeciphered inscription may not improbably be the subject of a communication in the second volume of *Transactions*.

"A reprint of the Society's Regulations being required, your Council deemed it a fit occasion for introducing such alterations and emendations as appeared to be expedient or necessary. These amendments having been accordingly brought forward and approved at the last general meeting, have now been submitted for confirmation.

"The Council considers it needless to draw the notice of the meeting to any of them particularly, excepting the clause for establishing a Committee of Correspondence, which had been previously instituted, as reported to the last anniversary meeting, and which, as a permanent institution, is now specially sanctioned by the by-laws of the Society. To promote the important objects for which the Committee of Correspondence is established, a clause has been introduced admitting a class of corresponding members; and it is hoped that their concerted exertions may materially assist the views of the Society

in the acquisition, preservation, and diffusion of knowledge in relation to Asia."

The reading of the Council Report being concluded, Lieut. Col. Blackburne delivered the report of the auditors as to their examination of the treasurer's accounts, and the state of the Society's funds. From this report it appears that the funded property of the Society remains the same as at the last anniversary, viz. £2,650; and the value of the furniture in the Society's house, taken at the cost price, is £793. 7s.; the cash balance in the hands of the treasurer is £190. 8s. 7d. These items comprize the assets of the Society. The receipts of the current year are estimated at £1,449. 15s., and the expenses at £785. 10s. 5d., leaving a probable surplus of £664. 4s. 7d.; but as this mainly depends upon the recovery of arrears now due from members of the Society, it cannot be considered at all certain. Lieut. Col. Blackburne concluded by stating that the auditors, in the examination of the accounts which were laid before them by the treasurer, received every possible aid and facility from that gentleman, and have found in the accounts themselves the highest degree of order, regularity, and correctness, with the most perfect correspondence between the disbursements and the vouchers.

The reports of the Council and auditors were then received, and thanks voted to the Council and auditors respectively.

The President then addressed the meeting in a speech, the principal topics of which were the great loss the Society had sustained since the last anniversary by the deaths of two of its illustrious Vice-Patrons and several valuable members, among whom he particularly mentioned Sir T. S. Raffles and the Bishop of Calcutta. After an allusion to the late conquests in the Burmese territory, which he expressed a hope would prove an extensive and fruitful field for the researches to which the attention of the Society is directed, the President concluded his address, of which the above is but a meagre outline, by moving that the thanks of the meeting be conveyed to their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Clarence and Sussex, for their having been graciously pleased respectively to express their willingness to accept the office of Vice-Patron, vacant by the deaths of H. R. H. the Duke of York and the Marquess of Hastings, and that they be appointed Vice-Patrons accordingly: which was unanimously approved. The thanks of the meeting were then voted to the President, who returned thanks: and the thanks of the meeting were also voted respectively to the Director, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Acting Secretary.

The ballot being now opened, Richard Clarke, Esq. and Lieut. Col. Coombs were appointed scrutineers, and on their examination of the balloting lists being closed, they reported that the following noblemen and gentlemen were withdrawn from the Council, viz. the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Kingsborough, the Right Hon. J. Sullivan, Sir W. Ouseley, W. Ainslie, Esq., M.D., Col. J. Baillie, H. Holland, Esq., H. St. G. Tucker, Esq.; and that the following gentlemen were elected in their place, viz. Col. Sir R. Barclay, H. Alexander, Esq., B. G. Babington, Esq., Lieut. Col. G. Fitzclarence, J. Guillemard, Esq., Lieut. Col. T. L. Lushington, W. Marsden, Esq., W. H. Trant, Esq.

The only alteration in the list of officers was the substitution of Benjamin Guy Babington, Esq. M.B., as secretary, in the room of Andrew Mackie, Esq. who had kindly acted as secretary during the preceding year.

It was then announced that the next meeting of the Society would be on April 7th; and that there would not be a general meeting on June 2d.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LONDON.

Voyages of Discovery, undertaken to complete the Survey of the Western Coast of New Holland. By Capt. P. P. King, R.N. 2 vols. 8vo. 38s.

Sketches of Persia, from the Journals of a Traveller in the East. 2 vols. post 8vo. 18s.

Voyage of H. M. S. Blonde to the Sandwich Islands, in 1824-5, for the purpose of conveying the Bodies of the late King and Queen to their native country. Capt. the Right Hon. Lord Byron, Commander, &c. 4to. £2. 2s.

Appendix to Capt. Parry's Second Voyage of Discovery, containing the Natural History, &c. 4to. £1. 11s. 6d.

Vindicta Hebraica; or, a Defence of the Scriptures. By H. Hurwitz, author of the "Hebrew Tales." 8vo. 9s.

La Secchia Rapita; or the Rape of the Bucket; an Heroic-comical poem, in twelve Cantos. Translated from the Italian of Alessandro Tassoni. With Notes. By James Atkinson, Esq. (of Calcutta). 2 vols. 8vo.

Sonnets and other Poems. By David L. Richardson. (Diamond Edition.) 3s. 6d.

The Zenana, or, a Nuwab's Leisure Hours; Tales illustrative of Oriental Life. By the Author of "Pandurang Harl, or Memoirs of a Hindoo." 3 vols. 12mo. 24s.

Servian Popular Poetry, translated by John Bowring. 1 vol. 12mo.

In the Press.

Flora Australasica, containing portraits of the finest plants of New Holland and the South Sea Islands, with their History and cultivation. By Mr. Sweet.

Lectures on the Hebrew Language. By Professor Lee.

Foreign Topography, or an Encyclopedick Account of the Ancient Remains in Asia, Africa, Europe (England excepted), and America. By the Rev. T. D. Fosbroke, M.A., &c.

The Life, Voyages, and Adventures of "Naufraque", being a faithful Narrative of the Author's real Life, and containing a series of remarkable Adventures of no ordinary kind. 8vo.

The scope of this work lies in Asia, of which interesting part of the globe this volume will contain many lively sketches: together with a variety of information connected with the state of Society, and the Manners, Customs, and Opinions of the Hindoos (particularly of the Brahmans).

CALCUTTA.

Advice to Indo-Britons, as to the best means of bettering their condition, in two Pamphlets. 2 Rs. per copy.

An Appeal to Unprejudiced Minds, from one doomed to Rot in Jail to the day of his death, or a Statement of Transactions between Mr. T. B. Swinhoe, and Capt. George Betham. 4 Rs.

Theatre of the Hindus, No. III., containing the Drama of "Malati and Madhava, or the Stolen Marriage," translated from the Original Sanscrit, by H. H. Wilson, Esq. 4 Rs.

A Letter to the Hon. Sir Antony Buller, Knt., one of the judges of the Supreme Court, Calcutta, on the grounds of his judgment in the case "Bryce v. Ballard and others," as reported in the Calcutta Journal. By the Reverend James Bryce, D.D., Senior Clergyman of the Church of Scotland at Fort William. (Reprinted.) Stitched.

The Stud-Book, containing Pedigrees of Horses bred in India; from the earliest accounts to the year 1836 inclusive. 12 Rs.

Twelve Select Views of the Seat of War, including Views taken at Rangoon, Cachar, and Andaman Islands. By J. Grierson, Esq. Oblong folio. 30 Rs.

Chart of Martaban River, including Amherst Island, from a Survey by W. Spiers. Rs. 10.

A Geographical Sketch of the Burmese Empire, compiled at the Office of the Surveyor-General of India, and published with Permission of Government. Measuring 6 ft. 2 inch. by 3 ft. 3 inch., coloured, 48 Rs.

A ditto ditto, reduced from the edition published Asiatic Journ. Vol. XXIII. No. 136.

by permission of Government, to which is added part of Siam and the Delta of the Ganges, towards Calcutta. Coloured, 10 Rs.

Works patronized by Government, at the recommendation of the Council of the College of Fort William, and lately published, or now preparing for publication:—

The Futawa Hamadee, a celebrated work on Mahomedan law, in two octavo volumes, containing upwards of 900 pages of closely printed letterpress. This publication being held in high estimation by Mahomedan lawyers, forms a very valuable addition to the few good works of the kind that have hitherto been printed.

The Bostoun of Saadee, with a Commentary on the text in the margin of each page, and a familiar explanation of the words at the bottom of it, in easy Persian, so as to enable those who are mere beginners in the study of the language, to peruse this well-known moral Poem without the assistance of a dictionary.

Tables of the Arabic Language prepared for publication by C. T. Glass, Esq., of the Civil Service, wherein, as it were in a map, the whole system of inflection used in that ancient and highly artificial tongue, is at one view laid before the reader's sight, and cannot fail to have the effect principally intended by the editor, of enabling Persian students to form thereby a clearer notion of the meaning of Arabic words, under whatever forms they may occur, in the perusal of the Persian authors.

The three works above referred to have been printed at the Lithographic press, and are highly creditable in the proofs they afford of the neatness, cheapness, expedition, and accuracy with which printing of the most various and difficult kind, such as that of the Arabic Tables before alluded to, can be executed at that establishment.

A Collection of Proverbs in various Languages, Bengalee, Sanscrit, Arabic, Persian, Latin, and English, under the title of *Bhoodurrun*, edited by Noelruttun Hildar, and chiefly designed by him to promote the study of the first-named of those tongues, which, as nothing of the kind has hitherto appeared in Bengalee, and many of the proverbs are expressed in it, the editor may fairly hope to realize his expectations.

A Dictionary of Hindoe, edited by Gunga Pur-saud Sookul, Bhakha Pundit of the College, under the superintendence of Capt. Price, Professor of that language, and designed to promote the study of the dialects derived from Sanscrit, that are used for both colloquial and written purposes by the Hindoos of every part of Hindopstan.

Works in course of publication under the authority of the Committee of Public Instruction, at the Education Press:—

In Sanscrit. The Mugdabodha, or Sanscrit Grammar of Vopadeva, in the Devanagari Character, one vol., duodecimo (printed).

The Bhatti Kavya, a Sanskrit Poem, illustrative of Grammar, with a Commentary. 8vo.

The Laghu Kaumudi, a Sanscrit Grammar, one vol. duodecimo.

Preparing for Publication.

The Lelavati, or System of Hindu Arithmetic. The Raghu Vansa, a Sanscrit Historical Poem. In Arabic. The Fatawa Alemgiri.

In Persian. An Abridgement of Seir Mutakherin of Gholam Hosain.

A new edition of the Mujmoos Shemsal, or View of the Copernican System of Astronomy.

A Translation of the Lelavati and Bij Ganita, or Hindu Arithmetic and Algebra.

Printing at Bishop's College Press for the Committee.

A Persian Translation of Bridge's Elements of Algebra, by Mawlawi Abdoo Raheem, edited by the Reverend Principal Mill.

Tracts prepared by Mr. Breton for the use of the Native Medical Institution since July 1825:—

In Hindoostanee, in the Persian, and Nagree characters: A Treatise on Vaccination; a ditto on Hydrophobia; a ditto on mineral poisons; Nosological Table; references to various Anatomical Plates.

In Bengalee: A Treatise on Vaccination.

ASIATIC INTELLIGENCE.

Calcutta.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL
ORDERS.

VICE-PRESIDENT IN COUNCIL.

Fort-William, Aug. 4, 1826.—The Right Hon. Lord Amherst, Governor-General, having nominated His Exc. General the Right Hon. Lord Combermere, a.c.b., to be Vice-President and Deputy Governor of Fort-William, during the Governor-General's absence from the Presidency, His Excellency Lord Combermere has this day taken his seat accordingly, under the usual salute from the ramparts of Fort-William.

By order of the Right Hon. the Vice-President in Council.

C. LUSHINGTON, Chief Sec. to Govt.

The Right Hon. the Vice-President has been pleased to make the following appointments:—

Capt. F. H. Dawkins, Grenadier Guards, to be private secretary to the vice-president.

Capt. Sydney Cotton, H.M.'s 3d (Buffs) regt., to be military secretary to ditto.

Lieut. Godfrey Mundy, 2d (Queen's) regt., and Lieut. R. F. Dougan, 10th L.C., to be aides-de-camp on personal staff of ditto.

EUROPEANS VISITING THE UPPER
PROVINCES.

Fort-William, General Department, Aug. 4, 1826.—It having come to the knowledge of government, that Europeans are in the habit of visiting the Upper Provinces in the prosecution of commercial speculations, or for the temporary purpose of disposing of investments of goods, without having obtained the previous permission of government to proceed to the interior, Notice is hereby given, that instructions will be issued to the magistrates of the several districts bordering on the rivers to stop all Europeans, whether British-born subjects or otherwise, and Americans, not being in the service of His Majesty, or in the civil or military service or employment of the hon. Company, who may be found in the interior, at a distance of ten miles from the Presidency, and unprovided with a passport.

Applications for passports are to be made in writing to the Secretary to Government in the general department, and are to contain the following particulars:—1st, the name and occupation of the person applying: 2d, time of his arrival in India, and whether with or without a license from the Court of Directors: 3d, the place or places to which the individual

may be desirous of proceeding; and 4thly, the general object of his journey.

By command of the Right Hon. the Vice-President in Council,

C. LUSHINGTON, Chief Sec. to Govt.

RELIEF OF TROOPS.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, Aug. 26, 1826 —With the sanction of government the following relief of the troops will take place:—

2d L. C. from Neemuch to Muttra.

3d ditto from Muttra to Keitah.

5th ditto from Keitah to Neemuch.

H. M. 13th Foot from Bethampore to Ghazepore.

H. M. 14th Foot from Meerut to Benhampore.

H. M. 44th Foot from Ghazepore to Meerut.

2d Europ. Regt. from Cheduba to Agra.

1st N. I. from Gurrawarra and Hussingabad to Delhi.

8th ditto from Baitool to Bundah.

16th ditto from Barrackpore to Goruckpore.

17th ditto from Bhopalpoore to Delhi.

24th ditto from Delhi to Bhopalpoore.

27th ditto from Dacca to Benares.

29th ditto (left wing) from Futtyghur to Etawa.

39th ditto from Cawnpore to Gurrawarra and Hussingabad.

45th ditto from Benares to Baitool.

49th ditto from Benares to Mirzapore.

51st ditto from Jubblepore to Cawnpore.

59th ditto from Banda to Barrackpore.

61st ditto from Arracan to Benares.

67th ditto from Arracan to Dinapore.

1st Extra N. I. from Futtyghur to Neemuch.

2d ditto from Cawnpore to Futtyghur.

3d ditto (left wing) from Etawah to Mynpooree.

4th ditto (right wing) from Mirzapore to Allahabad.

5th ditto from Benares to Jubblepore.

6th ditto from Dinapore to Mully, (right wing)—to Titalya (left wing).

PIONEERS.

Head-Quarters, Sept. 8, 1826.—The Commander-in-Chief is pleased to direct that, in future, not more than one regimental captain, besides the commanding officer, (if of that rank) shall be attached to the corps of Pioneers.

No subaltern officer will be appointed to the Pioneers who has not been in India four years, and done regimental duty for at least three years.

REDUCTION OF LOCAL CORPS.

Fort-William, Sept. 29, 1826.—The Right Hon. the Vice-President in Council having resolved to reduce the 4th or Dinagepoor battalion, the 5th or Chumparun light infantry, the 11th or Goruckpoor light infantry, and the 12th or Rampoorah battalion, these local corps are to be broken up on the 1st December next, and the native commissioned, non-commissioned officers, drummers, and privates, disposed of in manner hereafter to be detailed, at as early a period subsequent to that date as they can be relieved from their present duties, by troops of the line, under instructions which the Commander-in-Chief will be pleased to issue to the officers commanding the divisions or districts in which these locals are respectively stationed.

In consequence of the displacing of intermediate numbers, the local battalions are to be re-numbered from No. 3, upwards.

Promotion and recruiting in provincial battalions are suspended until further orders.

TEMPORARY PIONEER COMPANIES.

Fort-William, Oct. 6, 1826.—The services of the three temporary companies of Pioneers, embodied chiefly at Chittagong, towards the end of 1824, and now at Arracan, being no longer required, their reduction has been determined upon by the Right Hon. the Vice-President in Council.

INDULGENCE TO ASSISTANT SURGEONS.

Fort-William, Oct. 13th 1826.—The Right Hon. the Vice-President in Council is pleased to direct, that Assistant Surgeons on the Bengal establishment, who have been appointed after the season 1822, shall receive the additional pay of one rupee a day, for the provision of a Palanqueen, when doing duty with European corps, without being in receipt of the established allowance for the supply of medicines.

2. His Lordship in Council is pleased to extend the same indulgence, in similar circumstances, to Assistant Surgeons of His Majesty's service, who have arrived in Bengal, since the 31st of December 1823.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

July 6. Mr. Holt MacKenzie, Secretary to Governor-General during period of his Lordship's tour to the Upper Provinces.

Mr. Andrew Stirling, Persian Secretary to Governor-General.

30. Mr. Edw. C. Ravenshaw, assistant to Persian Secretary to Governor-General.

Mr. G. T. Lushington, ditto ditto.

Oct. 5. Mr. Geo. Swinton, officiating chief secretary to Government.

34. Mr. H. T. Prinsap, officiating secretary to Government in territorial department.

— Mr. Edward Malony, officiating secretary to Government in general department.

Political Department.

Aug. 25. Mr. C. Garstin, junior assistant to agent to Governor-General in Saugor and Nerbudda territories.

Oct. 6. Lieut. Byam, mil. estab. of Fort St. George, an extra assist. to resident at Hyderabad.

Territorial Department.

Aug. 4. Mr. H. Munday, salt agent for southern division of Cuttack.

24. Mr. F. J. Becher, assistant to collector of Midnapore.

Oct. 19. Mr. C. Bury, an assistant to secretary to Board of Revenue in Central Provinces.

24. Mr. J. G. Deedes, assistant secretary to Board of Revenue, Western Provinces.

Mr. W. R. Kennaway, ditto ditto.

Commercial Department.

Aug. 17. Mr. J. W. Paxton, import-warehouse keeper.

Judicial Department.

Aug. 17. Mr. D. Macfarlan, judge and magistrate of Backergunge.

Mr. F. O. Wells, secretary to civil commissioner at Dehly.

Mr. G. J. Taylor, register of City Court at Moorshedabad.

Mr. W. B. Jackson, 2d register of Zillah Court at Bareilly.

Sept. 1. Mr. J. C. Dick, judge and magistrate of Futtehpore.

Mr. J. T. Rivaz, register of Zillah Court of Meerut and joint magistrate stationed at Boolundshehur.

Mr. C. G. Udny, 2d assist. to register of Courts of Sudder Dewanny and Nizamut Adawlut.

Mr. F. J. Halliday, 3d assist. to ditto ditto.

Mr. J. R. Colvin, extra assist. to ditto ditto.

Oct. 5. Mr. N. J. Halhed, 2d judge of Provincial Court of Appeal and Circuit for Division of Moorshedabad.

Oct. 24. Mr. W. F. Dick, fourth judge of Provincial Courts of Appeal and Circuit for division of Bareilly.

Mr. J. C. Dick, judge and magistrate of Bareilly.

Mr. H. Graham, ditto of Seharunpore.

Mr. R. Walker, ditto of Futtehpore.

Mr. W. T. Robertson, magistrate of Goruckpore.

Mr. G. C. Cheap, ditto of Nuddeah.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort William, July 31, 1826.—Surgs. D. Todd and R. Williams to be superintending surgeons.

Surg. G. Lambe to perform medical duties of civil station of Dacca, v. Todd prom.

Aug. 5.—Lieut. J. S. Winfield, 69th N.I., to command Reformed Bhopaul Contingent of horse and foot; date 21st July.

Capt. J. Cheape, corps of engineers, to be superintendant of public works in province of Cuttack; date 26th July.

Cadets admitted. Mr. H. Sanders to artil., and prom. to 2d-lieut.—Messrs. R. C. Gwatkin, J. De Fountain, and A. De Fountain to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. Edm. Tritton as an assist. surg.

Surg. W. Thomas's appointment to officiate as dep. superintend. surg. to South Eastern Division annulled.

Head-Quarters, July 27, 1826.—Ens. F. Raleigh to do duty with 7th N.I. at Berhampore.

Aug. 2.—Capt. E. C. Archer, 41st F., extra aid-de-camp, to be aid-de-camp on personal staff of com.-in-chief.

Ens. J. Baldock (recently admitted) to do duty with 57th N.I.

Cornets and Ensigns appointed to do duty. Cornets W. Kerr and A. Campbell with 1st L.C. at Sultan.

Sultanpore (Benares); W. H. Hall, 5th do., Keltah; C. Wallaston, 9th do., Cawnpore.—Ensigns J. E. Cheetham and H. Mackenzie, 6th extra N.I. Dinapore; W. Edwards, 45th N.I., Benares; W. Bartlett, 49th do., Benares; J. M. Simpson, 5th extra N.I., Benares; A. Balderston, left wing 4th extra N.I., Juanpore; G. Nugent, right wing ditto, Mirzapore; R. Beavan, 50th N.I., Allahabad; J. C. Haslock and A. Napier, 36th do., Sultanpore (Oude); J. Mackay and N. Palmer, 39th do., Cawnpore; G. Gordon, 14th do., Lucknow; O. Campbell, 5th do., Muttra; P. N. Nicholson, 28th do., Barrackpore; A. D. Coall, 10th do., Barrackpore.

Superintend. Surg. Limond appointed to Berhampore Division, from 26th May.

Lieut. Hay, 39th N.I., to act as maj. of brigade at Berhampore during absence of Brig. Maj. Cooke.

Aug. 4.—Ena. J. King removed from 13th, and appointed to 62d N.I. at Benares.

Assist. surgs. McDonald and McLean to do duty with depôt of H.M.'s troops at Chinsurah.

Capt. H. A. Newton, 60th N.I., to do duty with 1st Nusseere bat. at Sabathoo instead of Kumaoon local bat.

Fort William, Aug. 16.—37th N.I. Ena. H. B. Harrington to be lieut. from 27th July, v. Bellew dec.

Cadets admitted. Messrs. W. Cumberland, W. T. Briggs, and G. A. S. Fullerton to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. C. Llewellyn as an assist. surg.

Lieut. Fisher, dep. assist. qu. mast. gen., to resume survey of Sylhet.

Aug. 18.—18th N.I. Ena. C. C. Jenkin to be lieut. from 24th July, v. M'Mullan dec.

Cadets admitted. Mr. M. N. Ogilvy to cavalry, and Mr. H. Palmer to infantry.

Appointment of executive engineer in Arracan abolished.

Surg. Geo. Skipton to be a superintending surg. on estab. from Aug.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 12.—Ensigns appointed to do duty. R. C. Gwatkin with 50th N.I. at Meerut; J. N. Rind, 3d do., Mynporee; A. De Fountain, 4th do., Mirzapore; and J. De Fountain, 50th do., Allahabad.

Lieut. A. Fisher, 35th N.I., to do duty with Sirmoor bat.

Assist. surgs. appointed to do duty. A. C. Duncan with 6th L.C., at Muttra; — Morice with detachment of H.M.'s troops proceeding to Upper Provinces; E. T. Downes and C. S. Grant with 2d Europ. Regt. in Fort William.

Aug. 16.—Assist. surg. G. S. Seton to do duty with detachments of H.M.'s troops at Chinsurah depôt.

Aug. 17.—Lieut. Griffiths to act as interp. and qu. mast. to 37th N.I., v. Bellew dec.

Assist. surg. H. Bousfield to assume medical charge of Champaran Light Inf. at Mullie; dated 2d Aug.

Cornet R. T. Knox to do duty with 1st L.C. at Sultanpore (Benares), and Ena. C. Hutton with 20th N.I., at Barrackpore.

Capt. J. E. Watson's name to be discontinued on rolls of corps of Hill Rangers.

Fort William, Aug. 25.—Infantry. Maj. J. Tod to be lieut. col. from 23d Aug., v. Short dec.

1st Europ. Regt. Ena. A. F. Maginniss to be lieut. from 7th Aug., v. Stewart dec.

49th N.I. Capt. J. C. B. Parke to be maj., Lieut. R. C. MacDonald to be capt. of a comp., and Ena. J. Stubbs to be lieut., from 23d Aug., in suc. to Tod prom.

Cadets admitted. Mr. J. Moore to cav., and prom. to cornet.—Mr. C. T. W. P. Gafford to inf., and prom. to ena.—Messrs. E. T. Downes and J. Hardie as assist. surgeons.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 21.—Assist. surg. C. S. Grant app. to 1st L.C., at Sultanpore, Benares.

Aug. 23.—Assist. surgs. W. L. McGregor and H. Chapman to do duty with 2d Europ. Regt.

Aug. 23.—Assist. surg. J. Dalrymple posted to 56th N.I.—Assist. surg. R. Mercer and R. Loughton directed to proceed to Nusseerabad, and place themselves under orders of superintend. surg. of Western Division.

Aug. 25.—Postings, &c. of Superintending Surgeons. Todd (new prom.) to Barrackpore; Williams (new prom.) to Nusseerabad; Skipton to Agra; Law removed from Meerut to Berhampore; Limond from Berhampore to Benares; Langstaff from Benares to Meerut; Durham posted to Allahabad.

5th L.C. Lieut. C. E. T. Oldfield to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Blair who resigns.

5th N.I. Lieut. W. Mackintosh to be adj., v. Jervis prom.

37th N.I. Lieut. H. B. Harrington to be interp. and quart. mast., v. Bellow dec.

46th N.I. Lieut. H. W. Burt to be adj., v. Jones prom.

3d Extra N.I. Lieut. G. Kinloch to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Marshall prom.

Fort William, Aug. 25.—Lieut. P. La Touche, 7th N.I., to be a major of brigade, in room of Capt. C. Taylor, proceeded to Europe on furlough. Surg. J. Watson to be gar. surg. at Allahabad, v. Skipton.

Sept. 1.—28th N.I. Lieut. J. Aitchison to be capt. of a comp., and Ena. J. De W. C. J. Molt to be lieut., from 28th Aug., in suc. to Stewart dec.

Capt. D. D. Anderson, 29th N.I., to be a deputy assist. adj. gen., and Capt. N. Penny, 1st Extra N.I., to be a major of brigade, in suc. to Park prom.

Assist. surgs. appointed to Civil Stations. G. Carr, to Tipperah; J. T. Pearson, to Ramghur; G. S. Seton, to Bullooh; E. T. Downes, to Bheerbhoom.

To be Capt. by Brevet. Lieuts. W. W. Rees, 50th N.E.; G. R. Scott, artil.; Jas. Johnson, ditto; T. A. Vanrennen, ditto; F. C. Robb, 22d N.I.; Jas. Nicholson, 4th N.I.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 29.—Furruckabad Prov. Bat. Lieut. W. F. A. Seymour, 68th N.I., to be adj., v. La Touche.

Moorshedabad Prov. Bat. Lieut. J. A. Fairhead, 28th N.I., to be adj., v. Seymour rem. to Furruckabad Prov. Bat.

Cornet John Moore to do duty with 2d L.C. at Muttra.

Aug. 30.—Ena. H. Palmer to do duty with 33d N.I. at Nusseerabad.

Lieut. H. C. Talbot, 61st N.I., permitted, at his own request, to resign acting adj. of Mugh Levy.

Capt. Mackinlay, dep. assist. adj. gen., removed from Presidency to Cawnpore div. of army, v. Parke prom.

Capt. La Touche, major of brigade (new app.) posted to Bundelcund command.

Sept. 1.—Lieut. Col. T. P. Smith removed from 2d Europ. Regt. to 61st N.I., and Lieut. Col. T. Murray from latter to former.

Fort William, Sept. 1.—Mr. F. Mackeson admitted to inf., and prom. to ensign.

Sept. 8.—Artillery. Bt. Capt. and 1st-Lieut. R. C. Dickson to be capt., and 2d-Lieut. S. W. Fennig to be 1st-lieut., from 30th Aug., in suc. to Smith dec.

32d N.I. Ena. A. L. Willis to be lieut. from 4th July, v. Colquhoun dec.

Capt. Phillips, 49th N.I., and Lieut. H. Gordon, 26th do., to be assistants to commissioners in Arracan.

Head-Quarters, Sept. 4.—Lieut. W. E. Hay, 39th N.I., and Lieut. M. W. Gilmore, 2d Europ. Regt., permitted to each corp.

Capt. Shuldham, dep. assist. adj. gen., posted to Presidency Division.

Capt. Anderson, dep. assist. adj. gen. (retaly prom.), posted to Shrinid Division.

Sept. 6.—Assist. surgs. Newton and Fennell to do duty with H.M.'s 47th regt.

Fort William, Sept. 13.—34th N.I. Ens. G. W. Hamilton to be lieut., from 23d Aug., v. J. Gibb, dec.

5th Extra N.I. Ens. W. E. Andrews to be lieut. from 20th Aug., v. Harvey dec.

Cadets admitted. Messrs. T. G. Blake, W. Wollaston, C. J. Mahalingam, G. B. Reddie, W. R. Dunmore, E. Garrett, E. R. Lyons, and R. Long, to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Messrs. D. B. Wardlaw and T. Spens as assist. surg.

Sept. 15.—*Infantry.* Maj. John Smith to be lieut. col., v. Phipp retired, with rank from 23d Aug., v. Short dec.

7th N.I. Br. Capt. and Lieut. S. Walter (dec.) to be capt. of a comp., from 3d March, v. Costley prom.

11th N.I. Lieut. J. T. Kennedy to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. T. Gould to be lieut., from 20th Oct., in suc. to Boyes ret.

10th N.I. Capt. R. Rich to be maj., Lieut. J. W. Ingram to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. C. Symes to be lieut., from 23d Aug., in suc. to Smith prom.

25th N.I. Ens. B. Marshall to be lieut. from 9th Sept., v. Senior dec.

Lieut. R. C. Jenkins, 61st N.I., to officiate as superintendent of cadets during absence of Lieut. Kerr.

Head-Quarters, Sept. 11.—*Appointments and Removals in Medical Department.* Surg. W. Thomas to 20th N.I. Surg. J. Jackson to 25th do. Surg. C. Ray to 48th do. Surg. Gerard to 3d do. Surg. Mercer to 22d do. Surg. Govan to 1st brig. Horse Artill. Surg. W. Farquhar to 46th N.I. Surg. W. Jackson to do duty with 20th do. Surg. Moscrop rem. from 3d to 39th do. Surg. J. Thompson from 30th to 69th do. Assist. surg. A. Smith to 65th do. at Penang. Assist. surg. J. Taylor to 66th do. Assist. surg. Hoare from 3d to 39th do. Assist. surg. D. M. Gray to 1st Nusseerabad bat. Assist. surg. J. F. Stewart from 69th to 59th N.I. Assist. surg. Bowron to 61st do.

34th N.I. Lieut. C. B. Leicester to be adj., v. Gibb dec.

Purneah Prov. Bat. Lieut. F. B. Corfield, 20th N.I., to be adj., v. Graham resigned.

Sept. 14.—*Medical Department.* Surg. Darby and Assist. surg. W. Thompson posted to 45th N.I. Assist. surg. Malcolm and Wynne directed to join 45th do. at Benares. Offic. Assist. surg. Oliver to do duty with 14th N.I. Assist. surg. H. Taylor posted to 58th do.

Fort William, Sept. 15.—22d N.I. Capt. T. J. Baldwin to be maj., Brev. Capt. and Lieut. F. C. Robb to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. W. A. Butler to be lieut., from 6th Sept., in suc. to Broadbent dec.

Sept. 22.—5th N.I. Ens. W. J. Martin to be lieut., v. Charlton transf. to pension list.

Assist. surg. H. Chapman to officiate as 1st assist. gar. surg. of Fort William during absence of assist. surg. Hewett.

Head-Quarters, Sept. 18.—60th N.I. Lieut. P. Deare to be adj., v. Winsfield app. to command Bhairpaul Contingent of Horse; Lieut. G. C. Armstrong to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Deare.

Lieut. Col. Tombs removed from 3d to 6th L.C., and Lieut. Col. Becher from latter to former.

Fort William, Sept. 25.—28th N.I. Ens. W. H. Nicholls to be lieut. from 20th Sept., v. Murray dec.

Cadets admitted. Mr. R. Macdonell to cav., and prom. to cornet.—Messrs. E. Blenkinsop, J. Anderson, F. R. Evans, R. E. T. Richardson, J. French, J. Butler, R. W. Palm, W. P. Jones, and J. R. Piercy to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Messrs. A. Murray, D. A. M'Leod, and J. M. Brander, as assist. surg.

Sept. 29.—5th Extra N.I. Br. Capt. and Lieut. H. Carter to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. E. K. Hopper to be lieut., from 23d Sept., in suc. to Price dec.

Lieut. A. Grant, 52d N.I., to be capt. by brevet from 19th Sept.

Cadets admitted. Messrs. J. K. Spence, G. F. Whitelock, H. D. Maitland, T. Wallace, G. W.

Bishop, and G. W. Williams to inf., and prom. to ensigns.

Capt. Jas. Franklin, 1st L.C., to be surveyor of iron mines in Saur and Bundelcund districts.

1st N.I. Brev. Capt. and Lieut. W. H. Sleeman to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. J. V. Law to be lieut., from 23d Sept., in suc. to Read dec.

Head-Quarters, Sept. 22.—Surg. Jas. Thompson posted to 50th regt., and Surg. Corbyn, to 69th do.

Lieut. R. D. White, 1st Extra N.I., app. to corps of pioneers.

Sept 25.—Lieut. W. J. Symons to be adj. of Rajpootana Div. of Artill., v. Middleton.

49th N.I. Lieut. J. W. Michell to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Macdonald prom.

Sept. 26.—*Ornents (recently admitted) posted to Regiments.* A. Daniel to 3d L.C., proceeding to Keltah. N. Macdonald, 9th do, at Cawnpore. F. Collyer, 5th do., proceeding to Neemuch. M. H. Hailes, 10th do., at Meerut. W. J. E. Boys, 8th do., at Kurnaul. W. H. Tweedale, 6th do., at Muttra. W. B. Kelly, 7th do., at Kurnaul. C. E. White, 4th do., at Nusseerabad. John Moore, 1st do., at Sultanpore (Benares). J. S. G. Ryley, 2d do., proceeding to Muttra. H. P. Voules, 3d do., proceeding to Keltah. John Hamilton, 9th do., at Cawnpore. W. J. J. Fane, 5th do., proceeding to Neemuch. R. Macdonell, 10th do., at Meerut. C. Wollaston, 8th do., at Kurnaul. W. H. Hall, 6th do., at Muttra. W. Kerr, 7th do., at Kurnaul. A. Campbell, 1st do., at Sultanpore (Benares). R. T. Knox, 4th do., at Nusseerabad.

Ensigns (recently admitted) posted to Regiments. H. C. Reynolds to 25th N.I., at Barrackpore. E. Ironside, 62d do., at Benares. P. Abbot, 4th Extra do., at Allahabad. W. Dunlop, 5th Extra do., proceeding to Jubblepore. A. Ramsay, 34th N.I., at Seetapore. F. A. Carleton 36th do., at Sultanpore (Oude). F. G. Beck, 13th do., in Assam. C. C. J. Scott, 32d do., at Keltah. J. A. James, 1st Extra do., proceeding to Neemuch. G. N. C. Hall, 28th N.I., at Barrackpore. G. Carr, 7th do., at Berhampore. J. Drummond, 19th do., at Nusseerabad. N. A. Parker, 58th do., at Agra. J. Iveson, 7th do., at Berhampore. J. Baldock, 22d do., at Midnapore. A. De Fountain, 29th do., at Shajehanpore. R. C. Gwatkin, 6th do., at Meerut. J. N. Rind, 37th do., at Bareilly. C. Hutton, 20th do., at Barrackpore. John De Fountain, 66th do., at Nusseerabad. C. Brown, 18th do., at Bhurtpore. W. Lamb, 51st do., proceeding to Cawnpore. J. H. Le Feuvre, 10th do., at Neemuch. T. Bennett, 9th do., at Secroa. J. R. Flower, 25th do., at Barrackpore. G. W. Stokes, 59th do., proceeding to Barrackpore. J. C. Cooper, 3d do., at Lucknow. A. M. Methven, 65th do., at Ponang. C. E. Davis, 62d do., at Benares. J. G. A. Rice, 6th do., at Kurnaul. J. T. Fergusson, 2d Extra do., at Futtighurh. E. K. Hume, 64th N.I., at Agra. H. H. Lloyd, 4th Extra do., at Allahabad. W. St. L. Mitchell, 13th N.I., in Assam. A. Macdougall, 5th Extra do., at Jubblepore. T. G. Blake, 67th N.I., proceeding to Dinapore. W. Cumberland, 11th do., at Kurnaul. C. T. W. P. Gifford, 2d do., at Keltah. W. T. Briggs, 6th Extra do., at Mullye. H. Palmer, 48th N.I., at Neemuch. E. C. F. Beaumont, 32d do., at Keltah. J. B. Lock, 1st Europ. Regt., at Agra. P. J. Cheine, 34th N.I., at Seetapore. J. Ainslie, 40th do., at Dinapore. C. Clarke, 1st Extra do., at Neemuch. T. D. Martin, 28th N.I., at Barrackpore. G. Cecil, 12th do., at Loodiana. H. H. Say, 45th do., at Baitool. W. A. J. Mayhew, 8th do., at Bandah. M. J. Laurence, 66th do., at Barrackpore. E. F. Smith, 23d do., at Almorah. G. Borrodale, 68th do., in Arracan. John Butler, 55th do., at Delhi. P. Shortreed, 58th do., at Agra. R. W. Palin, 5th do., at Muttra. W. P. Jones, 82d do., at Midnapore. J. R. Piercy, 29th do., at Shajehanpore. J. E. Cheetham, 21st do., at Bhurtpore. A. Balderston, 16th do., proceeding to Goruckpore. A. D. Coull, 4th do., at Loodiana. A. Napier, 42d do., at Cawnpore. W. Lydiard, 2d Europ. regt., proceeding to Agra. G. Gordon, 50th N.I., at Allahabad. J. Mackay, 27th do., proceeding to Benares. W. Bartlett, 37th do., at Bareilly. F. Raleigh, 1st do., proceeding to Delhi. G. R. P. Becher, 36th do., at Saugor. O. Campbell, 43d do., at Saugor. G. Nugent, 30th do., in Cuttack. H. Mackenzie, 56th do., at Nusseerabad.

Nusseerabad. P. Nicolson, 28th do., at Barrackpore. N. Palmer, 54th do., in Assam. J. C. Haslock, 30th do., proceeding to Gurrawarra. J. M. Simson 17th do., proceeding to Delhi. R. Beavan, 31st do., at Neemuch. W. Edwards, 18th do., at Bhurtpore.

Fort William, Sept. 29.—Capt. J. G. Drummond, dep. assist. qu. mast. gen., to have general control and superintendence of roads in Saugor and Nerbudda territories.

Capt. Hutchins, com. Gov. Gen.'s escort at Jubbulpore, and Lieut. A. C. Beaton, 2d N.I., to be assist. superintendants of roads under Capt. Drummond.

Assist. surg. G. Carr posted to station of senior civil commissioner and salt agent in Arracan.

Oct. 6.—5th Extra N.I. Ens. J. King to be lieut., rom 26th Sept. 1826, v. the Hon. W. Stapleton dec.

Capt. W. Burroughs, 2d Europ. Regt., to be fort adj. at Allahabad, v. Rich prom.

Lieut. A. Irvine, of engineers, to be executive engineer of 5th or Allahabad Div. of Public Works, and of garrison of Allahabad, &c. &c.

Lieut. G. Thomson, of engineers, to be executive engineer in depart. of public works in district of Neemuch.

Lieut. W. Turner, 58th N.I., to be capt. by brevet from 13th Aug. 1826.

Assist. surg. E. Hickman permitted, at his own request, to resign service of Hon. Comp.

Capt. H. James, 20th N.I., to officiate as superintendant of cadets in Fort William, during absence of Lieut. Kerr, on sick leave.

Messrs. R. B. Duncan and T. B. Hart admitted on estab. as assist. surgs.

Maj. Gen. G. H. Pine appointed to general staff of army.

Head-Quarters, Oct. 4.—Brig. Maj. Penny app. to Agra and Muttra frontier.

Oct. 5.—*Removals of Ensigns.* J. R. Piercy from 29th to 5th Extra N.I. at Jubbulpore; J. E. Cheetham from 21st to 11th N.I., at Kurnaul; W. Bartlett from 37th to 68th do. at Sandoway (Arracan).

Ensigns posted to Regiments. G. D. Reddle to 29th N.I., at Shajehanpore. E. Blenkinsop, 21st do., at Bhurtpore. E. R. Lyons, 37th do., at Bareilly. W. Wollaston, 57th do., proceeding to Pertaubgurh (Oude). C. J. Mainwaring, 1st do., proceeding to Delhi. R. Long, 25th do., at Barrackpore. W. R. Dunmore, 36th do., at Meerut. E. Garrett, 1st Extra N.I., proceeding to Neemuch. T. M. Brewer, 33d N.I., at Nusseerabad. W. Lindsay, 10th do., at Neemuh. P. Gordon, 59d do., at Chittagong. G. W. Bishop, 44th do., at Dacca. N. G. Mein, 18th do., at Allygurh.

Oct. 5.—Lieut. Col. Stark and Maj. Rodber removed from 2d to 1st brig. of horse artil., and Lieut. Col. Faithful and Maj. Whish from 1st to 2d brig. ditto.

Surg. Stratton posted to 2d L.C.

Oct. 6.—34th N.I. Lieut. Angelo, interp. and qu. mast., and Lieut. Leicester, adj., permitted to exchange appointments.

Fort William, Oct. 13.—*Infantry.* Lieut. Col. A. Richards to be lieut. col. com. from 24th Sept., v. Lamb dec. Maj. Arch. Galloway to be lieut. col., from 24th Sept., v. Richards prom.

26th N.I. Capt. R. B. Jenkins to be major; Lieut. J. Satchwell to be captain of a comp., and Ens. F. C. Marden to be lieut., from 24th Sept., in suc. to Galloway prom.

Assist. surgs. appointed to Civil Stations. D. B. Wardlaw to Sylhet; J. M. Brander to Tipperah; and D. Butler to Ghazepore.

Mr. P. Shortreed admitted to inf., and prom. to ensign.

Capt. R. W. Pogson, 69th N.I., to be agent for family money, and paymaster of native pensioners at Barrackpore, v. Read dec.

Lieut. P. Craigie, 38th N.I., to be a dep. assist. adj. gen. on this establishment, v. Pogson.

Assist. surg. E. T. Downs, to perform medical

duties of civil station of Nudda, v. Assist. surg. Harpur, placed at disposal of com.-in-chief.

Head-Quarters, Oct. 7.—*Unposted Ensigns* appointed to do duty with Corps. R. Richardson, F. R. Evans, and J. French, with 69d N.I., at Benares. Whitelock, with 57th do., at Pertaubgurh (Oude). Williams, with 40th do., at Dinapore. Maitland, Wallace, and Anderson, with 7th do., at Berhampore.

Oct. 9.—Lieut. L. Vansandau, 68th N.I., to be 2d in command of Rungpore Local Inf.

Capt. T. Hepworth, 61st N.I., to officiate as major of brigade to troops in Assam; v. Martin resigned.

Oct. 10.—Maj. Gen. Pine posted to Cawnpore division of army.

Maj. Gen. Shuldham to command division of army on Sirhind frontier.

Ens. G. W. Bishop removed from 44th regt. to 3d Extra N.I.

Oct. 12.—Lieut. Col. Com. C. Fagan, removed from 68th to 41st N.I.; and Lieut. Col. Com. Whitehead from 41st to 68th ditto.

Lieut. Col. G. D. Heathcote removed from 69th to 60th N.I.; and Lieut. Col. Bowyer, from 60th to 69th ditto.

Assist. surg. J. Menzies app. to 16th N.I.

Ens. E. Blenkinsop removed from 21st to 34th regt. at his own request.

Fort William, Oct. 23.—Lieut. A. Knayvett, 64th N.I., to be assist. to agent for timber at Nauthpore.

Assist. surg. R. B. Duncan to perform medical duties of civil station of Calpee.

Assist. surg. J. R. Martin to be 3d permanent assist. surg. to Presidency Gen. Hospital.

13th N.I. Ens. Jas. Campbell to be lieut. from 30th Sept., v. Craigie dec.

57th N.I. Ens. W. Moultrie to be lieut., v. Cary dec., with rank from 24th Sept. 1825.

Assist. surg. E. W. W. Raleigh to have medical charge of escort accompanying Gov. General to Upper Provinces, during its progress on the river; dated 14th Aug.

Head-Quarters, Oct. 16.—1st N.I. Lieut. J. Fisher to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Mansfield resigned.

18th N.I. Lieut. W. Minto to be interp. and qu. mast., v. M. Millan dec.

Oct. 17.—Assist. surg. Harpur posted to Ramgurh Local Battalion.

Oct. 18.—Ens. W. Kennedy removed from 3d to 2d Extra N.I.

Oct. 20.—Brigadier J. W. Adams to command Muttra and Agra frontier.

Brigadier Burnett to command Eastern frontier.

Capt. Newton, 66th N.I., to be 2d in command of 1st Nusseer bat.

Fort William, Oct. 20.—Mr. C. Grant admitted to cav., and prom. to cornet.

Oct. 24.—Surg. R. Tyler app. to 5th N.I., and Assist. surgs. A. Murray and T. B. Hart directed to place themselves under superintend. surg. at Berhampore.

Capt. Craigie, dep. assist. adj. gen., posted to Meerut Division.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 19, 1826.—To be Capt. by Brevet in East-Indies only. Lieut. G. G. Shaw, 4th L. Dr.; Lieut. W. Atkinson, 30th F.; Lieut. C. Shaw, 31st F.; Lieut. A. O'Leary, 31st F.; Lieut. G. Bell, 45th F.

Aug. 28.—Lieut. Col. Tidy, 14th F., to assume charge of depot of King's troops at Chinsurah.

Aug. 29.—*Depot at Chinsurah.* Lieut. and Brev. Capt. J. M. Dermot, 14th F., to be adj.; Capt. J. Clarke, 47th F., to be paymaster; Assist. surg. Selwright to be surg.

Sept. 8.—Capt. Elliott, 4th L. Dr., to be assist. adj. gen. of H.M.'s forces in India, v. Lieut. Col. Tidy

Tidy app. to command King's Depot at Chun-sarah.

Sept. 15.—*To be Capt. by Brevet in East-Indies only.* Lieut. W. Boardman, 31st F.; Lieut. A. G. Sidley, 45th F.

Sept. 27.—*To be ditto.* Lieut. G. Bell, 1st F.; Lieut. G. B. O'Brien, 26th F.

Sept. 29.—Lieut. R. R. Gillespie, 4th L. Dr., to be an aide-de-camp on personal staff of Governor-general.

Oct. 24.—*To be Capt. by Brevet in East-Indies only.* Lieut. M. Andrews, 30th F.; Lieut. J. Burn, 59th F.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—July 31. Lieut. Col. T. Wilson, 28th N.I., for health.—Aug. 8. Lieut. Col. Com. J. M'Innes, for health.—Lieut. C. Cook, 21st N.I., for health.—Capt. W. Bacon, 65th N.I., for health.—18. Capt. R. A. Thomas, 48th N.I., for health.—Lieut. W. T. Savary, 36th N.I., on private affairs.—Lieut. J. Whiteford, 16th N.I., on private affairs.—25. Capt. A. Stewart, 28th N.I., for health.—Sept. 1. Lieut. H. Brown, 51st N.I., for health.—Ens. G. Ramsay, 61st N.I., for health.—4. Lieut. J. De W. C. J. Molr, 28th N.I., for health.—15. Assist. surg. D. Ramsay, for health.—Capt. J. Gouldhawke, 60th N.I., on private affairs.—1st Lieut. C. R. Winfield, of artill., on ditto.—Lieut. E. Jackson, 68th N.I., for health.—22. Capt. G. Young, 68th N.I., for health.—Surg. W. Darby, on private affairs (via Bombay).—26. Capt. J. F. Berguer, 68th N.I., on ditto.—29. Lieut. C. Wilson, 2d Europ. Regt., for health.—Oct. 6. Lieut. J. Graham, 50th N.I., for health.—Capt. W. Simonds, 21st N.I., on private affairs.—13. Lieut. M. W. Gilmore, 39th N.I., for health.—Surg. J. Jackson, for health.—Capt. C. D'O. Aplin, 33d N.I., for health.—20. Lieut. T. W. Bolton, 2d N.I., for health.—Capt. J. F. Patton, of engineers, for health.—Lieut. J. Bracken, 29th N.I., for health.

To Singapore.—Aug. 5. Assist. surg. A. Stenhouse for six months, for health.—28. Lieut. C. H. Wiggins, of artill., for five months, for health.—Sept. 4. Lieut. R. Codrington, for four months, for health.—28. Assist. surg. G. G. Mac Pherson, for four months, on private affairs.

To Madras.—Aug. 18. Lieut. H. Clerk, artill., for six months, for health.

To Bombay.—Oct. 16. Lieut. Hunter, 15th N.I., for six months, on private affairs.

To Isle of France.—Aug. 25. Lieut. J. W. Scott, of artill., for six months, for health.

To Martaban.—Oct. 7. Lieut. J. Bartleman, 44th N.I., for four months, for health.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

To Europe.—Aug. 8. Lieut. Agnew, 4th L. Dr., for health.—12. Capt. Evanson, 54th F., for health.—Capt. Hall, 14th F., on private affairs.—29. Lieut. Kingdom, 31st F., for health.—Sept. 2. Lieut. Murray, 59th F., to precede his regt. to England.—Maj. O'Reilly, 41st F., for health.—Lieut. Gilland, Queen's R. Regt., for health.—8. Br. Capt. Hilton, 16th Lancers, on private affairs.—30. Brev. Capt. Pender, 14th F., for health.—Brev. Capt. Long, 59th F., for health.—Oct. 2. Capt. Leslie, 54th F., for health.—16. Lieut. Serridge, 30th F., for health.—Capt. Woodgate, 54th F., for health.—21. Maj. Backhouse, 47th F., to precede his regt. to England.

To Sea.—Oct. 2. Lieut. Harris, 87th F., for three months, for health.

To New South Wales.—Oct. 16. Lieut. Wilson, 48th F., for one year, on private affairs.—21. Capt. Broderidge, 48th F., for one year, on private affairs.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, October 23, 1826.

In the charge delivered to the grand jury, at the opening of the court this day, the Chief Justice adverted to the new jury act, by which, he thought, all classes of

persons were competent to serve as jurors who professed the Christian religion.

"It appeared to his Lordship that in the present Act the legislature had two objects, one of which was that the term British subjects which was construed to apply only to those persons who were born in England, and which had led so many to believe that the population of this country were not all subject to the British law, should be better understood. After this there could be no doubt that any person born in Bengal, Behar, or Orissa, was liable to the Supreme Court.

"But the main reason of the legislature was, no doubt to admit all persons so considered, to the privilege of British subjects." So long as forty-three years ago, it was the opinion of a committee in the House of Commons that the use of juries in India was not dangerous.

"Whatever was the opinion of some persons, his Lordship thought it was the duty of the Court to give that effect to the Act which they considered was the object of the legislature; and he thought that the Grand Jury should explain to the intelligent natives of the country that it was for their benefit and accommodation that this change in the Jury system had taken place.

"While this Act admitted many persons into the privileges of British subjects, his Lordship thought there would be a difficulty in extending it to the natives. The first objection was that they did not generally understand the English language; and in civil cases it would be almost an impossibility to translate several things: the speeches of counsel for instance. A judge's charge, though his Lordship by no means meant to say that it could not be translated, yet, it was difficult to be done; and it was necessary that the niceties of English law, especially in cases of manslaughter, should be particularly understood by a Jury.

"His Lordship said he would make it a matter of consideration with the officer of the Court, to summon such persons as were competent to judge of the merits of a case; at all events he would take care to prevent ridicule from being cast on the proceedings of the Court. It was impossible that any thing could be so satisfactory to a man as the decision of his twelve neighbours. Our ancestors had approved of such a system, and Mr. Elphinstone of Bombay, a gentleman of much experience, had recommended its introduction among the Natives."

We quote the above passages from the *Bengal Hurkaru*; but it is stated in the *Government Gazette* that this report is "very inaccurate." The last-mentioned paper adds the following reflections upon this subject:—

"The admission of natives as petty jurors must continue for a long period at least,

least, to be wholly inoperative. The acquirement of the English language to a sufficient extent for such a purpose, is confined to the principal members of the native community, and they certainly will think it neither an honour nor a pleasure to be placed in a jury box, even with European tradesmen. Individuals of any other description are wholly out of the question, as neither in knowledge nor in character, are they competent to sit in judgment upon offences against morality or law. We are disposed to think that a great mistake has been committed in the construction of this law as applicable to the natives, and that to have rendered their services beneficially available, they should have been rendered eligible to the grand jury especially: in that situation, their knowledge of their own language, and what is still more valuable, their knowledge of their countrymen, would be of invaluable assistance to the English associates; and their co-operation with a number of persons of the first respectability, would convert the duty into an honour, of which they would be fully sensible, and would be the most powerful incentive that could be offered to their feeling and maintaining a proportionate degree of moral and intellectual elevation. The omission, we trust, will be rectified as soon as opportunity may occur, as till then, the law is a dead letter as far as the natives of India are effected by its provisions."

October 24.

The King v. Wm. Ed. Hall, Robt. Pereira, Chas. Poole and Chas. Scott.—This was an indictment charging the prisoners with defrauding Messrs. Leyburn and Co. auctioneers, of a quantity of wine and spirits, by means of a forged order, purporting to be signed by Major Frith. It did not appear what the prisoners were; they associated together. The jury found Hall guilty, and acquitted the others.

October 28.

The King v. John Anthony, Francisco Martinaz, and Antony Fernandez.—This was an indictment charging the prisoners, who are Portuguese, with the wilful murder of an English sailor, named Wm. Howell, on the 26th September.

The murder took place at a house of ill-fame, to which the deceased had resorted. He was intoxicated, and whilst asleep, the prisoner Anthony attacked him, and stabbed him with a knife.

The jury found Anthony guilty, and acquitted the two others.

A technical difficulty occurred in this case: the deceased was struck in Calcutta, but died in the general hospital, which was out of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

The chief justice deferred sentence till

the proper authorities in England could be consulted on the point.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

We extract the following particulars from various papers:—

Lord Amherst and his family left Barrackpore on the morning of the 5th August, and embarked on board the fleet which got under weigh about 9 o'clock. On the 8th they were off Mirzapore, as mentioned in our last; and on the 16th the fleet had reached Hazrehtty, a little above the debouché of the Jellinghy into the Ganges. The route was originally intended to be by Moorshedabad; but that *via* Jellinghy was afterwards preferred. After entering into the Great River from the Jellinghy, the course led through a branch of the Bhagirathi, and the boats proceeded by way of Sooty, which they passed on the 21st. The inundation was most extensive, and the force of the current tremendous, but no serious accidents occurred, and the wind continued sufficiently strong to enable the vessel to make tolerable way against the stream. In consequence of the inundated state of the country, scarcely any opportunity offered of going on shore after coming to anchor.

After being detained for several days at Sekri Gully, the fleet arrived at Bhagulpur on the evening of the 31st, where his lordship remained till the 4th September. On the 6th the foremost vessels passed Monghir, and reached Patna on the 14th. In passing the rocks of Colgong, a pinnacle of Lady Amherst's, we understand, was in imminent danger, the *goon* breaking and none of the crew being on board. The steersman, assisted by a khidmutgar, fortunately succeeded in letting go an anchor in time to prevent her being driven against the rocks. The only person in the vessel, we believe, was a young lady of her ladyship's family, whose situation naturally excited the most lively sentiments of alarm in those who were spectators of her danger. The country along the banks of the river, from Bhagulpur to Monghir, is described as entirely inundated, the rise of the river having been this year unprecedentedly high. Half the town of Monghir was under water, and the famous bastion of the fort was in the same predicament. The whole tract from Surajgher to the foot of the Kurruckpore hills was one sheet of water, which was the case with the greater part of the lands in the Bhagulpur district. The injury done to the khureef crop, must have been very extensive and serious.

The Governor-General and Lady Amherst landed amidst an immense concourse of spectators, and proceeded to the residence of Sir C. Doyley. On the 15th his Lordship held a levee, which was attended

tended by all the civil and military officers of the station and its vicinity. On the 16th a durbar was held, at which most of the principal zemindars of the province of Behar and the chief inhabitants of Patna were present. Honorary dresses were distributed to native gentlemen. Although the mornings were hot, and the attendance numerous, his Lordship went through the fatigue of both ceremonies without being sensibly oppressed. Lady Amherst had recovered her health materially since the arrival of the fleet at Patna, although not sufficiently so to appear in public. On this account no large station parties were given, but a numerous assemblage took place daily, at the dwelling of the hospitable entertainers.

After a stay of some days at Patna, the party embarked for Benares; and after a tedious voyage, owing to winds and currents, they arrived at that city on the 12th October. The Governor-general and Lady Amherst landed in state at Raj Ghat, where they were received by the principal civil officers of the station, and proceeded thence to the house prepared for their accommodation at Secrole, being escorted by a troop of the body guard. On the day following a levee was held in the morning, and a drawing-room in the evening, which were attended by all the civil and military members of the society of Benares. A durbar was held on the 16th. The members of the royal family residing in the city, the sons of the late Mirza Khorrem Bukht and Mirza Shegofteh Bukht, and the Raja of Benares, were admitted to a private interview, preceding the public presentation of the principal native gentlemen, the zemindars and merchants of the city and the vicinity, who were severally introduced to the Governor-general by Mr. Brooke and Mr. Stirling, to the number of fifty or sixty. Honorary dresses were conferred on the Raja of Benares, on Raja Jayprakash Singh, Zemindar of Bhojpur, Baboo Siv Narayan Singh, Jagirdar of Sayidpur, Gopal Surun Singh of Shahabad, and Baboo Ram Das of Benares, on the son of Raja Kalisankar Gosal, and on the Dewan of the Raja of Benares. A khelat was also sent, in the usual manner, to the widow of the late Biawembher Pundit.

On the morning of the 17th the Governor-general returned on board the boats, and the fleet passing the whole length of the city with a favourable but gentle breeze, the party had an opportunity of seeing the place to the greatest advantage. Few places in Gangetic India offer a more picturesque or imposing appearance than Benares from the river. The bank is lined with an uninterrupted range of spacious ghats, and crowned with an infinite number of small temples of the most elaborate workmanship, which pre-

sent themselves to view in rapid and varied succession. Structures of more bulk and greater extent, the dwellings of opulent individuals or the domiciles of religious orders, occupy the intervals between these lighter edifices, and the back-ground is filled with a series of lofty buildings, rising tier above tier, and topped with every possible variety of pinnacle and minaret. The whole is of grey or red stone, diversified by the variegated tints which time has given to their hue. The picture is perfect, without the addition of human figures: but when, as on the present occasion, the ghats and surmounting edifices are covered with a dense population, dressed in the greatest possible variety of colour and costume, a scene occurs to which it would be difficult for the pencil, and still more so for description, to render justice.

After passing the city, the fleet came to at Ramnagar, on the opposite bank, at the palace of the Raja, Lord and Lady Amherst having accepted an invitation to an entertainment to be given there in the evening, with all the splendour and display worthy of the occasion, and for which the Raja of Benares is celebrated. The fleet was to resume its progress on the morning of the 18th, and it was expected would reach Allahabad in ten or twelve days. Thence the journey proceeds by land, and the tents were ordered to be in readiness by the 25th.

Lord Amherst had suffered from fever on the voyage; and his lady, after leaving Patna, sustained much inconvenience from the heat. Both, however, had much improved in health and strength at Benares; they expressed themselves highly pleased with their reception, and with the objects they saw.

MESSRS. PALMER AND CO., OF HYDERABAD.

The Calcutta papers contain a report of the proceedings at a special general meeting of the creditors of the late firm of William Palmer and Co., of Hyderabad, held at their office in that city, Aug. 21st, pursuant to public notice; Lieut. C. Arrow in the chair. The statement of the cash and receipts and disbursements, from 8th Sept. 1825 to 17th Aug. 1826, represents the former at 2,59,984 Hyderabad rupees, and the latter at 2,29,539: leaving cash in hand 30,414 Hyderabad rupees, besides 1,15,119 available at Calcutta, Madras, and Hyderabad. The trustees state that they are unable to realize the debts due to the firm, by reason of the Resident not having rescinded the promulgation made at Hyderabad, that the contracts of the late house were void on the ground of the illegality of the interest charged, notwithstanding the decision of the twelve judges in England, that the contracts were valid. The mere publica-

tion of the opinions of the judges would, they observe, be ineffectual till they were promulged by authority of the Resident. The trustees also complain of the instructions sent out by the Court of Directors to the Resident regarding the affairs under trust.

BOW BAZAR GAIETIES.

The gay season has already commenced, we learn, in peculiar quarters of the town. In the Bow Bazar, in the course of the last few days, there was a kind of Almack's-in-the-East entertainment, which collected together all the fashionables in that direction.

The charming revels of the evening, it was understood, would consist of a fancy dress ball and supper. At an early hour the way was thronged with buggies and palankeens, and there was a wild kind of interest given to the scene by a beautiful exhibition of pugilistic excellence, which took place at the foot of the staircase leading to the ball-room. Whether this was intended as a part of the entertainment we cannot take it upon us to say. Dancing commenced as soon as space could be cleared, and in the pauses, whether excited by the example of the persons alluded to or not, we cannot pretend to guess, there were several brisk encounters, in which the side arms of nature were flourished with a happy union of grace and vigour. Altogether there was a kind of "I bite my thumb disposition" evinced by some of the cavaliers present, which brought to mind the chivalric days of Romeo and Juliet, the Capulets and Montagues. It is inconceivable what a degree of uncommon spirit is given to an entertainment by a little variety of this kind.

At a late hour the ladies and gentlemen sat down to a sumptuous supper. The cold beef, the beer, the gin and water, the punch, and the other delicacies, were excellent, and did infinite credit to the entertainers.—*India Gaz.* Oct. 15.

SUTTEE.

A letter in the *John Bull*, dated Oct. 12, describes a suttee which took place at a village about forty-five miles above Calcutta. The deceased was a Brahmin, seventy-two years of age; his two wives (who were very old, probably fifty or sixty), after bathing, and walking once round the pile (being too feeble to walk seven times, the prescribed number), ascended the pile, and in two minutes it was lighted by one of the sons of the deceased: he raised a shout, in which the spectators joined. The ceremonies were of the kind usually observed at these horrid scenes.

RUNJEET SINGH.

We find from the Native Papers, that

the warlike demonstrations in the Punjab have led to no further results, and that the officers of Runjit Singh's army are allowed to repair to their respective dwellings. The setting in of the rains, and the swollen state of the rivers of the Punjab, render military operations at this season impracticable, and the Sikh chieftain must have been well aware that this would be the case before his troops could move; and he intended merely, in all probability, to frighten the Afghan governor into some territorial or political concessions. The invasion of Peshawer is now postponed till the commencement of the cold season; but a variety of circumstances are likely to intervene to prevent its taking place, at least in the life-time of the present ruler of Lahore. No further notice occurs of the departure of Sha Shuja from Ludhiana, and the intelligence to that effect was probably inaccurate.—*Calcutta Govt. Gaz.* Aug. 7.

ENSIGN WRIGHT.

The report of the murder of this officer in the Oude territories, stated in our last, upon the credit of the *Hurkaru*, turns out to be untrue. Mr. Ricketts, the Resident at Lucknow, has expostulated with the editor of that paper upon the subject, in a letter wherein he pronounces the statement "an infamous and cruel falsehood," and requires an apology from the editor for the highly disrespectful remarks towards the government of Oude with which the statement was followed up. A letter from Ensign Wright, dated at Lucknow, demands the editor's authority for publishing a report calculated to occasion distress and anxiety to his friends in Europe. The editor of the *Hurkaru* states that he derived the account from a letter from an officer of rank at Lucknow; he, however, refuses to apologize for his remarks.

These inaccurate reports of deaths are extremely injurious.

CHOWRINGHEE THEATRE.

On Friday, October 27, the *Sleeping Draught*, and the *Miller and his Men*, were performed before one of the most brilliant and crowded audiences ever witnessed at this theatre. The pieces were got up in a burry, which accounts for some failures in the scenery and machinery. The performers were also mostly new to these boards, and allowance must be therefore made for any little defects. There was no great necessity, however, for the charity of the house, and would have been still less if the performers had made less frequent appeals to the prompter. The representative of *Popolino* evidently possesses considerable dramatic talent. On this occasion it was displayed in the comic line most especially, but it is not exclusively

sively, and possibly not most decidedly humorous.

Doctor Vincolo is also a new performer of great merit, and he would be a great acquisition to the Chowringhee boards in this line of character. He has abundant energy and no want of humour, and his person and voice are well adapted to testy old men.

Gabriotto, another debutant, had but little to do, but in that little exhibited a humour that would turn to good account in a more important part. *Faldo* and *Rinaldo* were also first appearances; the first had nothing to say, but imitated a dumb man very creditably; and the latter was, what is much less interesting on the stage usually than any where else, perhaps, a lover—he did not seem to have pined much over his passion.

The part of *Bruno* was in the hands of a veteran, who we were happy to see fully maintained the credit of the old corps, against the new recruits. To the ladies, we presume, we must not apply such an epithet as we have attached to *Bruno*; but they were not debutantes, and performed with their usual spirit and vivacity.

The *Miller and his Men* is so familiar to a Calcutta audience, that it can scarcely continue to be effective. Incongruities of scenery, and mishaps of machinery tended still further to impair its efficiency on the occasion, and like the train at the close, it rather hung fire. The acting, however, was as good as we have ever seen it in this piece, and wanted nothing but scenic support.

Karl was undoubtedly the best personation of the melo-drama, and excited much merriment. *Kelmar* was by the *Popolino* of the first piece, and afforded a favourable specimen of the versatility of his powers. The *Count* was a debutant. *Claudine* was interesting, and *Ravina* respectable, although not quite *au fait* at lighting a train. Perhaps, however, the tardy explosion of this last member of the *dram. pers.* was not altogether the fault of the exploder, and we should recommend to the managers before they repeat this piece, to change their powder manufacturer. Every pistol was most obstinately mute, and the train laid for the mill "wound its slow length along" after the mill was blown up. If this had gone off as it ought, the same might have been said of the evening's entertainments.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, Oct. 30.

DUM DUM THEATRE.

We understand that the repairs of the *Dum-Dum* theatre are nearly completed, and that it will re-open early next month. The house has undergone every necessary alteration and considerable improvement. The gallery, which was the subject of so much annoyance to the boxes, is entirely

removed, and the pit much extended. The theatre will consequently afford more accommodation than it did before.—*Ibid.*, Oct. 23.

SCHOOLS FOR DEAF AND DUMB.

We have been informed that it is in contemplation to form a school, attached to the Serampore College, for the deaf and dumb, under the immediate superintendence of one of the gentlemen of that establishment, who was for years connected with the most respectable institution in England for the instruction of children labouring under so melancholy an affliction. The children of natives will be instructed gratuitously if their protectors wish it, and taught to read, write, and understand (from the motion of the lips, we imagine) language, either English or Bengalee.—*Beng. Hurk.*, Oct. 25.

IMPROVEMENT AMONGST THE NATIVES.

It is pleasing to observe the gradual desire for improvement among the respectable natives of Calcutta. It is daily becoming more apparent; their intercourse with Europeans and their own good sense must shew the native gentlemen how much more creditable it is to their taste and character to expend the large fortunes which many of them possess in some more useful way than giving gaudy nautches, and gorging all who wish to visit them with the most expensive wines and richest delicacies; and exhibiting, for the amusement of the thankless crowd, the fêtes of mountebanks and jugglers. Several native gentlemen, who were in the habit of giving an annual public feast at an enormous expense, have seen the folly of the practice, and wisely discontinued it; and they soon found the benefit of their resolution, as they were enabled to relieve numerous fellow creatures pining in distress, and adorn their native city with splendid buildings. Among others, the Baboo Dwarkanuth Tagore at present is erecting a beautiful mansion on the *Dum Dum* road, under the superintendence of an able European architect, surrounded by gardens quite in the English style.—*Ibid.*

MILITARY RETIREMENT FUND.

A proposal for the formation of a fund of the above character has been talked of at Calcutta, and a meeting of officers of the Bengal army was contemplated to take place at the Town Hall, on the 16th October. A notice to that effect was inserted in the public papers, signed by the Adjutant-General, Col. Watson, which stated that the Commander-in-chief had sanctioned the calling of such meeting. The object, it was understood, was to raise a fund by subscription to promote the retirement of officers, by increasing

creasing their allowances. Some misunderstanding, however, seems to have existed as to the sanction of Lord Combremer, who forbade the meeting; the project has therefore failed for the present.

SHIPPING.

Arrivals in the River.

Sept. 18. *Britannia*, Lamb, from the Cape, and *Phœnix*, Taylor, from London and the Mediterranean.—21. *Emulous* (steam-packet), from London.—22. *Prince Regent*, Hosmer, from London.—24. *Harriet*, Guthrie, from London.—25. *Providence*, Ardlie, and *Hope*, Flint, both from London.—26. *Venus*, Hogue, from London.—27. *Calcutta*, Merien, from Stockholm.—Oct. 3. *Duke of Bedford*, Parsons, from London.—9. *Melpomene*, Johnson, from London.—18. *Rose*, Marquis, from London.—20. *Asia*, Balderston, and *Cornwall Castle*, Davey, both from London.—21. *Malcolm*, Eyles; *Sarah*, Miller; and *Eliza*, Worth; all from London.—22. *Florentia*, Aldham; *Abber-ton*, Percival; *Ruby Raffles*, Coxwell; and *Morley*, Halliday, all from London.

Departures from Calcutta.

Sept. 24. *Eliza*, Mahon, for London.—Oct. 7. *Euphrates*, Scott, for London.—4. *La Belle Alliance*, Hunter, for Isle of France.—21. *Providence*, Ardlie, for Penang.—28. *Caroline*, Kidson, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

July 2. At Nusserebad, the lady of Capt. A. F. Richmond, 33d N.I., of a son.
19. At Nusserebad, the lady of Major Gramshaw, of artillery, of a son.
24. At Lucknow, the lady of J. M. Sinclair, gar. civil engineer, of a son.
Aug. 2. At Dum-Dum, the lady of Lieut. Twemlow, of artillery, of a son.
4. At Futtighur, the lady of C. Blackburn, Esq., of a son.
7. At Muttra, the lady of Capt. J. Jervis, 5th regt., of a son.
9. At Dinapore, the lady of Edw. Phillips, Esq., surg., 6th Extra N.I., of a son.
— At Allahabad, the lady of R. M. Tilghman, Esq., of a son.
10. At Patna, Mrs. J. Radcliffe, of a daughter.
— At Ramnisserepore, Mrs. C. Manley, of a daughter.
11. At Agra, the lady of G. Webb, Esq., surg. 1st Europ. Regt., of a daughter.
12. Near Jullahabad, district of Furuckhabad, the lady of H. Bebonau, Esq., jun., indigo-planter, of a son.
13. At Jessore, the lady of H. M. Pigou, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
15. At Popper Mhow, near Allahabad, the lady of Capt. Parby, of gunpowder, of a daughter.
— At Barrackpore, the lady of the late Alex. Falconer, Esq., of Belnaberry, of a son.
— At Jessore, Mrs. D. Johnson, of a daughter.
18. At Berhampore, the lady of Lieut. H. Temple, adj. 7th N.I., of a son.
20. At Patna, the lady of W. A. Pringle, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
— Mrs. G. Gomes, of a son and heir.
21. Mrs. G. H. Huttman, of a son.
— At Entally, Mrs. C. Doucett, of a son.
— At Chandernagore, Mrs. P. Roquet, of a son.
23. At Humeerpore, North Bundelkhand, the lady of M. Ainslie, Esq., of a daughter.
26. At Kidderpore, Mrs. A. Bowle, of a son.
— At Cossipore, the lady of W. F. Clark, Esq., of a daughter.
28. At Nagpore, Mrs. Pierrepont Gardiner, of a daughter.
30. The lady of J. R. Best, Esq., civil service, of a son.

Sept. 5. At Futtighur, the lady of the Rev. W. Fraser, chaplain, of a daughter.
7. At Futtighur, the lady of Capt. Brandon, 1st Extra N.I., of a daughter.
9. At Burrarah, district of Purneah, Mrs. G. Buckland, of a son.
10. At Nagpore, the lady of R. Jenkins, Esq., resident, of a daughter.
11. At Neenmuch, the lady of Lieut. C. J. Lewes, sub-assist. com. gen., of a daughter.
— At Balasore, the lady of John Becher, Esq., of a daughter.
— At Purneah, the lady of B. R. Pery, Esq., of a daughter.
— Mrs. F. D. Bellew, of a daughter.
13. At Moradabad, Mrs. Dorrington, of a son.
— At Barrackpore, the wife of Mr. A. Pinheiro, merchant, of a son.
— Mrs. J. Grocer, of a son.
14. The lady of the Hon. J. H. Harrington, of a daughter.
— The lady of M. Gisborne, Esq., of a son.
— At Moradabad, the lady of Dr. Alex. Davidson, of a son and heir.
— Mrs. G. Scott, of a son.
— The lady of Capt. H. Ross, 42d N.I., of a son.
20. At Dinapore, the lady of the Rev. C. Wimbler, district chaplain of Allahabad, of a son.
— At Moradabad, the lady of A. N. Forde, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
— At Moradabad, the lady of Mr. Tonnochy, of a son and heir.
21. The lady of W. Linton, Esq., of a son.
— The lady of A. C. Seymour, Esq., of a daughter.
22. At Ishapore powder-works, the lady of Maj. Galloway, agent for gunpowder, of a daughter.
— At Silhet, the lady of Lieut. Fisher, D. A. Q. M. G., of a daughter.
23. The wife of Mr. W. Spence, I.C.'s marine, of a daughter.
— The lady of Edm. Molony, Esq., civil service, of a son.
— Mrs. J. Silverton, of a son.
— Mrs. M. De Rozario, of a son.
24. At Hissar, the lady of Capt. J. D. Parsons, of a daughter.
— At Howrah, the lady of Capt. Randle, of a daughter.
25. At Sahurrunpore, the lady of Capt. J. Holbrow, of a son.
26. At Futtighur, the lady of Capt. D. Crichton, 1st Extra N.I., of a son.
— At Allahabad, the lady of W. W. Bird, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
28. At Chandernagore, the lady of Geo. Johnson, Esq., of a son.
— The lady of C. Hogg, Esq., of a daughter.
— Mrs. J. Gray, of a son.
29. At Cawnpore, Mrs. M. C. Wiley, of a daughter.
— At Seebpore, the lady of Brigade Major Currie, of a son.
— At Barrackpore, the lady of Major Wm. Swinton, of a daughter.
30. At Howrah, the lady of Poynts Stewart, Esq., M.D., of a son.
— At Chandernagore, Mrs. C. A. Viguiard, of a daughter.
Oct. 1. At Barrackpore, the lady of Capt. G. A. Vetch, of a son.
2. At Allahabad, the lady of A. F. Hampton, Esq., of a son.
— At Garden Reach, the lady of Lieut. H. Hunter, R.N., of a daughter.
4. At Kyal, the lady of Lieut. E. M. Blair, of a daughter.
5. At Serampore, the lady of John Brown, Esq., of Tirhoot, of a son.
6. Mrs. M. J. Hopkins, of a son.
8. The lady of Capt. J. Taylor, assist. com. gen., of a son.
— At Chandernagore, Mrs. C. F. Pinnetz, of a daughter.
9. At Revelgunge, the lady of Capt. Heyman, 13th L. Drago, of a daughter.
— At Monghyr, the lady of the Rev. W. Moore, of a son.
10. At Bomandee factory, Nuddeah, the lady of E. Thompson, Esq., of a daughter.
— The lady of Capt. H. J. Vardon, of a son.
— At Jenurpore factory, Mrs. H. V. Ingels, of a son.
11. At Allahabad, the lady of the Hon. J. R. Elphinstone, of a son.

13. At Sylhet, the lady of J. S. Sullivan, Esq., of a daughter.
 — At Garden Reach, the lady of J. F. Sandys, Esq., of a daughter.

14. The lady of Capt. P. Roy, of the country service, of a daughter.

15. At Ghazepore, the lady of John Hunter, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.

— Mrs. H. C. Watts, of a son.

16. At Kurnaul, the lady of Lieut. F. Angelo, 7th Light Cavalry, of a son.

18. At Patna, the lady of John Shum, Esq., of a son.

— At Barrackpore, the lady of Lieut. and Adj. Vincent, of a son.

19. Mrs. J. Thomas, of a daughter.

— Mrs. W. Sinclair, of a daughter.

20. Mrs. H. W. Twentyman, of a daughter.

— Mrs. G. Shearwood, of a son.

21. The lady of Capt. Gavin Young, of a daughter.

22. Mrs. C. Cornelius, Jun., of a daughter.

— The lady of D. McN. Liddell, Esq., of a daughter.

24. The lady of Capt. G. Story, Madras army, of a daughter.

25. Mrs. D'Silva, wife of Mr. Joseph D'Silva, late of Jessore, of a son.

26. Mrs. Joseph Savigny, of a son.

29. Mrs. G. R. Gardener, of a daughter.

31. Mrs. C. Esperanza, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Aug. 3. At Bareilly, H. Graham, Esq., civil service, to Jane Augusta, second daughter of W. Cowell, Esq., civil service.

21. John Allan, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. Cumming and Co., to Jane, eldest daughter of the late R. Menzies, Esq., of Dabreach, Perthshire.
 — Francis Shephee, Esq., of the Bombay medical establishment, to Miss Isabella Allan.

24. At Burrisal, Chas. Smith, Esq., civil service, to Maria Jarvis, daughter of the late Isaac Rowe, Esq.

— At Cawnpore, Thos. Morton, Esq., to Mrs. Burrows.

Sept. 13. At Benares, Capt. R. E. Chambers, 9th L.C., to Ellen, only daughter of T. Yeld, Esq.

16. Mr. W. Kemp, firm of Burn and Co., to Miss M. Smith.

— Mr. G. Mollis, of the Hindoo College, to Miss M. Lopes.

18. Mr. M. Morrison to Miss M. A. Ward.

19. Major Auriol, 2d Europ. Regt., to Mrs. Irwin, widow of the late Capt. John Irwin.

— At Berhampore, Ens. H. Morehouse, H.M.'s 13th Lt. Inf., to Susan, only daughter of Peter Cochrane, Esq., late senior member of Medical Board of this presidency.

21. At Cawnpore, Rich. Laughton, Esq., assist. surg., to Miss E. E. Torckler.

— At Azimgurh, Lieut. H. Patch, 5th Extra N.I., to Mrs. Sturmer, relict of the late John Sturmer, Esq., of Nizamabad.

22. Mr. W. Polhill, assist. surveyor, to Ann Apollonia, daughter of the late Mr. A. D'Mello.

23. At Benares, Lieut. J. F. Douglas, 49th B. N.I., to Mrs. C. S. Kelly.

25. At Cawnpore, Lieut. Alex. Mercer, 2d Extra N.I., to Mrs. Mary Smith.

— At Meerut, Capt. John Luard, H.M.'s 18th Lancers, to Elizabeth, second daughter of the late Wm. Scott, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

26. Lieut. W. S. Monteith, 1st Extra N.I., to Sarah Brevita, daughter of Capt. Hamilton, H.M.'s 16th lancers.

30. Mr. John Paternoster, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of W. Bason, Esq.

Oct. 11. At Berhampore, Dr. J. Henderson, H.M.'s 89th Foot, to Elizabeth, daughter of M. Sheridan, Esq., H.M.'s 13th Lt. Inf.

12. Mr. John Gleeson, of Judge Adv. General's Department, to Mrs. E. Lawson.

14. At Muttra, Mr. W. Thompson, Barrack Department, to Miss E. Simmons.

26. J. R. Martin, Esq., of the Governor-General's Body Guard, to Jane Maria, youngest daughter of the late Col. John Paton, of the Bengal establishment.

27. Mr. P. J. De Vine, to Mrs. F. Ravenscroft.

28. Mr. W. Jackson, of the Noscolly Salt Agency, to Miss Mary Marack.

28. Mr. M. Le Blanc, to Miss S. Gregory.

30. At the Cathedral, Thos. Campbell, Esq., to Maria, eldest daughter of H. J. Flellerup, Esq., late of the Danish Company's service.

31. The Rev. F. Goode, H.C.'s chaplain, to Caroline, youngest daughter, of T. Driscoll, of Harcourt Street, Dublin, Esq.

Nov. 3. A. R. Jackson, Esq., assist. marine surg., to Margaret, second daughter of C. Paterson, Esq., of the Bengal C. S.

Latel. At Meerut, Capt. E. Gwatkin, dep. paymaster at Meerut, to Penelope, widow of Capt. Alex. Bannerman, late assist. com. gen.

DEATHS.

July 25. At Nusseerabad, Sophia, the lady of Major Gramshaw, of artillery.

29. At Dinapore, of apoplexy, Major Edw. Stafford, sen. capt. in H.M.'s 31st Foot, aged 39.

Aug. 3. At Chowringhee, Thos. Pattle, Esq., aged 19.

4. At Agra, Margaret, infant daughter of Mrs. W. Campbell.

8. At Cawnpore, R. Mercer, Esq., M.D., an assist. surg., aged 24.

10. At Ghazepore, aged one year, Francis, the son, and on the 7th Sept., aged two years, Maria, the daughter of R. Barlow, Esq., sen. collector of the above district.

14. Near Kedgee, on board the H.C.'s pilot vessel *Henry Meriton*, Mr. J. C. Stapleton, branch pilot and commander of the above vessel, aged 46.

17. At his residence in the Armenian church, the Rev. Kaloos Arratoon, aged about 70.

22. At Monghier, Matilda, infant daughter of Mr. T. Steele, aged two years.

25. At Kidderpore, the infant son of Mr. A. Bowle.

27. Eliza, wife of Capt. F. Bean, of the country sea-service.

28. At Saugor, R. Macfarlane, Esq., officiating assist. surgeon.

— At Nagpoor, the infant daughter of Lieut. W. Pierrepont Gardiner.

— Capt. Alex. Stewart, 28th regt. N.I. aged 42.

29. Mr. Henry Fleming, aged 38.

— At Benares, Lieut. G. D. Harvey, 5th Extra N.I.

30. At Doomree indigo factory, of fever, Andrew Corson, Esq.

Sept. 3. At Midnapore, K. A. Aird, Esq.

— At Nagpoor, Elizabeth Annabella, wife of Lieut. W. Pierrepont Gardiner, 2d Madras Europ. Regt., aged 24.

4. On the river Ganges, near Allahabad, Capt. C. Wilson, H.M.'s 38th regt.

6. At Dinapore, of bilious fever, Maj. T. W. Broadbent, 22d N.I.

— At Cawnpore, Mr. H. Duhan.

7. At Ghazepore, Maria Catherine, youngest daughter of R. Barlow, Esq.

9. Lieut. W. Senior, 25th regt. N.I., aged 26.

— At Bankipore, Patna, Mariana, eldest daughter of Col. H. Griffiths, regulating officer, Shahabad.

10. At Burrisal, Wm. Miller, infant son of J. Shaw, Esq.

12. At Chandernagore, Mons. J. B. A. Rigordy, aged 72.

13. At Muttra, George Bosanquet, son of Dr. G. Paxton, 41st regt. N.I., aged five months.

14. At Sulkea, John Foster, Esq., aged 62.

15. Mr. J. Mackertich, aged 27.

17. Capt. C. G. Bidwell, country service, aged 30.

19. Mr. H. Minet, musician, aged 34.

20. At Barrackpore, Lieut. W. Murray, 28th N.I.

— At Patna, Anne, second daughter of Dr. R. M. M. Thomson.

21. Antony, infant son and only child of the late Antony Dorrett, Esq., aged ten months.

— At Howrah, Jos. Johnston, Esq., aged 40.

22. At Sulkea, Capt. J. Price, 5th Extra Regt., and superintendent of buildings at Sulkea.

— At Nusseerabad, Wm. Scott, infant son of Capt. J. W. Ingram, 19th N.I.

— Rose Ann, infant daughter of Mrs. J. Pereira.

23. At Midnapore, near Berhampore, Agia Charlotte, lady of John H. Savi, Esq., of Coolbaria indigo works, aged 25.

— At the New Anchorage, on board the *Duntra*, Capt. Jas. Read, 1st N.I., and superintendent of family money at Barrackpore.

— Mrs. Elspath Lyall, aged 40.

23. Mrs. Pearson, wife of Mr. G. H. Pearson, H.C.'s Bengal Marine, aged 26.

94. At Jubulpore, Lieut. Col. Com. W. Lamb, commanding 51st N.I., in his 48th year.

— The youngest son of Mr. J. M. Heritage, H.C.'s marine.

26. At Barrackpore, Capt. the Hon. Wm. Stapleton, second son of Lord Le Despencer, and aide-de-camp to the Right Hon. Lord Combermere, commander-in-chief.

— Sarah, wife of Mr. L. de Lanougerede, of the Calcutta police, aged 27.

28. At Rungpore, aged 18, the lady of Capt. Alex. Davidson, 13th N.I., assist. political agent north-eastern frontier.

— Margaret, the lady of E. S. Ellis, Esq., marine paymaster, aged 24.

29. Mr. J. G. Pengelly, of the firm of Pengelly, Mortimer, and Co., aged 30.

30. At Cuddapah, Mary, the wife of J. Hay, Esq., aged 30.

— Mr. John Jones, aged 50 years.

— At Garden Reach, X. Irisarri, Esq., aged 33.

Oct. 1. At Baltool, James Day, fifth son of Capt. G. Hicks, 8th N.I.

— On the river Ganges, Maria, eldest daughter of Lieut. Col. C. J. Doveton, 38th N.I.

— Mr. J. H. Burn, drowned while proceeding to Barrackpore, aged 19.

— Mr. T. Sheppard, late pensioner in H.C.'s marine, aged 51.

2. Eleanor, lady of W. Graham, Esq., M.D., Chittagong, aged 34.

— Thomas William, second son of Mr. J. Silverton, aged 5 years.

3. Joaquim Gracia, Esq., a native of the province of Andalusia in Spain, aged 22.

5. The infant son of Mr. J. Gray.

6. Mr. H. R. Stout, H.C.'s marine, aged 29.

7. Mr. Hyppolite Serge, aged 30.

8. Mr. L. Morrison, chief officer of the ship *David Clark*, aged 27.

— Louisa Georgiana, aged one year, third daughter of Dr. R. M. Thomson.

— At Bishenath, in Assam, Lieut. Jas. Craigie, 13th N.I.

— At Colgung, near Bhaugulpore, Margaret, wife of the Rev. Wm. Frazer, chaplain.

9. At Bhaugulpore, James Stewart, Esq., in his 33d year.

10. The infant son of Mr. J. Silverton.

13. Mr. T. D'Bruyn, many years examiner in the Military Accountant's Office, aged 56.

14. At Pertaubghur, near Neemutch, Lieut. and Adj. John Wyllie, Rampoorah Local Bat., aged 29.

— Mrs. Augusta Emily Hall.

— Mrs. R. Mabert, aged 19.

15. Capt. H. W. Pridham, of the country service, aged 32.

— At Muttra, Lieut. F. Dibdin, 3d L.C.

16. At Cuttack, Rich. Becher, Esq., aged 37.

21. At Rajepoorah, near Delhi, Samuel Shetford Watson, eldest son of Capt. S. Watson, 55th regt., aged two years.

25. At Chinsurah, Mr. C. S. Verboon.

26. Mr. E. Brands, an assistant at the Presidency Paymaster's Office.

30. At Howrah, the youngest child of Mr. C. A. Fenwick.

Madras.

COURTS MARTIAL.

MAJOR PATERSON, H. M.'s 13TH LIGHT DRAGOONS.

Head Quarters, Calcutta, 19th August, 1826.—At a General Court Martial, held at Bangalore, on the 3d of April, 1826, and continued by adjournments to the 24th of the same month, Maj. J. F. Paterson, of H. M.'s 13th Light Drags., was arraigned on the following charges; viz.

"For highly unofficer-like and disrespectful conduct towards me, his senior officer, in the following instances:"

1st. "In stating, on or about the 16th

inst., with a view to the breach of a regimental order, that he had directed the assembly of a regimental court-martial for the trial of Private John Brown, H. M.'s 13th Drags., in consequence of information obtained from adjutant Rosser; whereas the order for the assembly of the said court, was issued before the information (falsely said to have occasioned it) had been communicated to him; or words to the same effect."

2d. "In evading repeated applications made by me for an explanation of the apparent contradiction expressed in the first charge."

"(Signed) S. BOYSE, Lieut. Col."

H. M. 13th Drags. Cong. Bangalore. Bangalore, 20th Feb. 1826.

Upon which charges the Court came to the following decisions:—"

"The Court find the prisoner, Lieut. Col. Paterson, H. M.'s 13th Light Drags. guilty of the first charge, with exception of the word "falsely," the mis-statement appearing to have been inadvertently, not wilfully, made, nor was it made with a view to justify the breach of a regimental order.

"The Court find the prisoner guilty of the second charge, viz. in evading repeated applications made by Lieut. Col. Boyse, C. B. for an explanation of the apparent contradiction expressed in the first charge; such conduct being unofficer-like and disrespectful.

"The Court having found the prisoner, Lieut. Col. Paterson, H. M.'s 13th Light Drags. guilty, as above stated, which being in breach of the articles of war, do sentence him, the said Lieut. Col. Paterson, to be reprimanded, in such manner as his Exc. the Com-in-Chief may deem fit."

"The Court re-assembles, in obedience to orders from his Exc. the Commander-in-chief, as conveyed in a letter from the Dep. Adj. Gen. H. M.'s force, to revise their former sentence.

Revised Opinion.—The Court having taken into mature deliberation the preceding letter of his Exc. the Commander-in-chief, feel themselves bound to adhere to their former opinion.

"On the reasons assigned by the Court, I confirm the finding and the sentence.

(Signed) "G. T. WALKER, Lieut. Gen."

The reprimand which it is the Lieut. Gen. Sir George Walker's duty here to communicate to Lieut. Col. Paterson, will, he hopes, admonish him to be more particular in future, in all explanations required by his senior officer, and to bear always in mind, that however severe the terms in which they may be addressed, it is a duty

* Lieut.-Col. Paterson's promotion to his present rank was officially announced, subsequently to these charges being preferred.

to the service of his country that he is fulfilling, and not to be considered an act of subserviency to the individual.

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**LIEUT. BERWICK, H. M.'S 13TH LIGHT
 DRAGOONS.**

At a General Court-martial, held at Bangalore, on the 10th of April, and continued by adjournment to the 2d of May, 1826, Lieut. George Berwick; H. M.'s 13th Light Drags. was arraigned on the following charges; *viz.*

“For conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, in involving himself in pecuniary transactions with non-commissioned officers under his immediate command, calculated to weaken the ties of authority and respect which are essential to the due preservation of military discipline:

“In the following instances; *viz.*

1st.—“In having borrowed from a Mr. Cormack, during the month of May last, through the instrumentality and upon the security of troop Major M'Naughton, H. M.'s 13th Dragoons, the sum of 1500 rupees, or thereabout, upon the plea that his commission was at stake, and undertaking to repay the same by stated specified instalments within a certain period, which engagement he did not fulfil, having, at the expiration of the given time, paid only 500 rupees, thereby rendering Serjeant Major M'Naughton responsible for the payment (with interest) of the remaining part of the debt, or in case of failure, subject to the penalties of the law.

2d.—“In having during the month of September last, borrowed the sum of 2450 rupees, or thereabouts, from the said Serjeant-Major Alexander M'Naughton, to purchase a house from Quarter-Master Minchin, which house he falsely represented for a considerable time as his own *bonâ fide* property, although he had previously stipulated, that it was immediately upon its purchase to become the property of the said Serjeant-Major M'Naughton, and though upon the title-deeds, a legal transfer thereof to Serjeant-Major M'Naughton is subscribed by Lieut. Berwick, dated 16th September, 1825, the day following that on which he purchased it from Quarter-Master Minchin.

3d.—“In having agreed to hire the said house from Serjeant-Major M'Naughton at a monthly rent of twelve pagodas, the terms of which agreement he has not fulfilled, being now indebted to Serjeant-Major M'Naughton, on that account, in the sum of 150 rupees, or thereabouts.

4th.—“In having borrowed, on or about the beginning of December last, from troop Serjeant-Major Richard Baxter, H. M.'s 13th Dragoons, the sum of 1100 rupees, or thereabout, promising to

repay the same by transferring to Serjeant Major Baxter, monthly, the surplus that might remain of the money to be received on account of the troop contract, after discharging the cost of such line articles as might be provided by the Serjeant-Major, thus rendering the duty of the Serjeant-Major inimical to his interest, and violating the spirit of regimental orders.

5th.—“In having neglected to fulfil the above engagement, entered into for the gradual liquidation of his debt to Serjeant-Major Baxter, and having on the contrary, increased the same by not paying even for the whole of the line articles furnished by the troop Serjeant-Major, since the agreement was made.

“The whole of such conduct being in breach of the articles of war and subversive of discipline, as especially set forth in general orders by the late Commander-in-chief in India, general the hon. Sir Edward Paget, G. C. B., and re-published at Madras on the 30th April, 1824.”

“Upon which charges the Court came to the following decision:

Finding.—“The Court having maturely weighed the evidence on the prosecution, together with what the prisoner has urged in his defence, is of opinion, that he, Lieut. Berwick, H. M.'s 13th Light Dragoons, is guilty of the first part of the first charge, *viz.* in having borrowed from a Mr. Cormack, during the month of May last, through the instrumentality of troop Serjeant-Major Alex. M'Naughton, the sum of 1500 rupees, or thereabouts, but do acquit him of all the remaining part of the charge.

“The Court fully and honourably acquit the prisoner of the second charge.

“The Court fully and honourably acquit the prisoner of the third charge.

“The Court find the prisoner guilty of that part of the fourth charge, *viz.*, ‘In having borrowed, on or about the beginning of December last, from troop Serjeant-Major Richard Baxter, H. M.'s 13th Dragoons, the sum of 1100 rupees, or thereabout, promising to repay the same by transferring to Serjeant-Major Baxter, monthly, the surplus that might remain of the money to be received on account of the troop contract, after discharging the cost of such line articles as might be provided by the Serjeant-Major;’ but acquit him of the remaining part of the fourth charge.

“The Court fully and honourably acquit the prisoner of the fifth charge.

“The Court acquit the prisoner of ungentleman-like conduct; but having found him guilty, as above stated, which conduct being unbecoming an officer, subversive of discipline, and in breach of the articles of war, do sentence him, the said Lieut. Berwick, H. M.'s 13th Dragoons, to lose one step, by being placed immediately below the lieutenant who, at this

this date stands next to him in the list of officers of H. M.'s 13th Dragoons.

Revised finding.—The court having re-assembled for the purpose of revising their finding and sentence, if there should appear grounds for so doing, in obedience to the orders of his Exc. the Commander-in-chief, as conveyed in the Dep. Adj. Gen.'s letter of the 24th April last, do, after mature deliberation, abide by their former opinion on the first charge.

"The Court acquit the prisoner of the second charge.

"The Court abide by their former opinion on the third charge.

"The Court abide by their former opinion on the fourth charge.

"The Court fully acquit the prisoner of the fifth charge.

"The Court acquit the prisoner of gentleman-like conduct, but having found him guilty, as above stated, which conduct being unbecoming an officer, subversive of discipline, and in breach of the articles of war, do sentence him, the said Lieut. Berwick, H. M.'s 13th Dragoons, to lose one step, by being placed immediately below the lieutenant who, at this date, stands next to him in the list of officers of H. M.'s 13th Dragoons."

The finding and sentence of the court (as on the last page) is hereby confirmed.

(Signed) "G. T. WALKER,"
"Lieutenant-General."

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LIEUT. COL. BOYSE, H. M. 13th LIGHT
DRAGOONS.

At a General Court-Martial, held at Bangalore on the 25th of April 1826, and continued by adjournments to the 9th of May following, Lieut.-Col. Boyse, 13th Light Drags., commanding the cantonment of Bangalore, was arraigned on the following charge, preferred against him by Major-Gen. Sir Theophilus Pritzler, K. C. B. commanding the Mysore division of the army.

"For disrespect to me, as the officer commanding the division, in treating my orders with contempt, by issuing a regimental order, bearing date 7th Feb. 1826, in direct opposition to the instructions conveyed to him personally by me on that day, before the commanding officer and officers of H. M.'s 13th Drags., assembled for that purpose, and in communicating the same through the Adjutant of the 13th Drags., in direct and immediate disobedience of those my orders."

"Such conduct on the part of Lieut.-Col. Boyse being unbecoming his character as an officer, prejudicial to His Majesty's service, and subversive of all order, and military regulation and discipline.

(Signed) "THO. PRITZLER, Maj.-Gen.
Commanding Mysore Division."

Bangalore, 15th Apr. 1826.

Upon which charge the court came to the following decision :—

Opinion. "The Court, having taken into mature consideration the evidence on the prosecution, together with what Lieut.-Col. Boyse, C. B., has adduced in his defence, is of opinion, that he, Lieut.-Col. Boyse, C. B., H. M.'s 13th Light Drags., is not guilty of the crime laid to his charge, and do therefore most fully and most honourably acquit him of all and every part thereof."

The above finding and sentence is confirmed.

(Signed) G. T. WALKER, Lieut.-Gen.

[We are compelled to omit the remarks of Gen. Walker on these proceedings, owing to their length, but we subjoin those by the Commander-in-Chief.]

Remarks by the Right Hon. the Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon. the Commander-in-Chief in India cannot promulgate to this army the proceedings of the foregoing general Courts-Martial, without expressing his full concurrence in all the remarks made upon them by His Exc. Sir G. Walker, and which he has in consequence, published for general information.

The state of relaxed discipline into which H. M.'s 13th Light Drags. has been permitted to lapse, owing to the unmilitary dissensions of the senior officers, is truly deplorable, and after a very attentive consideration of the subject the Commander-in-chief is sorry to be obliged to observe, that the decisions of the court now under notice, are not calculated either to re-establish order in the corps or support the proud honour of the army.

The subject, as regards the individual officers who have been brought to trial, is of so serious a nature, that His Lordship will refer it for the decision of superior authority, trusting that, in the mean time, a material benefit will be derived from the measures which have been adopted by the Commander-in-chief of the Madras presidency, for the restoration of discipline and order.

The general orders of this army, especially those relating to the trial of an officer at Buxar, by the late Commander-in-chief, and forbidding an officer borrowing money from a Non-commissioned officer or soldier, are so explicit, so consonant with the feelings of an officer and a gentleman, and so perfectly in accordance with justice and common sense, that his Lordship would have supposed the necessity for offering any further remarks on the subject could never have occurred. It appears, however, that a Court-Martial has been convened, entertaining different sentiments, and attending to what it considered the law of a part of the question, has given a judgment apparently without attention to the principle and substance of the

the charge which was under its consideration. Lieut. Berwick was found guilty of having borrowed two distinct sums of money from or through the instrumentality of two non-commissioned officers of the corps, one of them the Serjeant-Major of the troop under his immediate command; upon these grave and penal offences an adequate sentence should have been passed;—the other points on which he was acquitted, were immaterial, and by no means affected the substance of the charges.

It has caused serious concern to the Commander-in-chief to learn, that a system of borrowing money from non-commissioned officers could exist among the officers of any corps, and he now desires, that the officer commanding the 13th Light Drags. will adopt measures for the future prevention of so disgraceful a practice.

It is the peculiar province of the President of a Court-Martial to attend to the nature of the evidence which may be brought before it, and prevent the introduction of matter foreign to the subject under investigation. Had this duty been attended to in the present case, much unnecessary labour would have been spared, and the minds of the members of the court could not have been diverted from the subject of their inquiry.

As the dissensions amongst the officers of the 13th Light Drags., appear to have, in some measure, originated from the relative situations of an officer commanding a station where his regiment is quartered, and the officer in the immediate command of the corps, not having been clearly understood, the Commander-in-chief takes the opportunity of publishing his sentiments on the matter, and desires that they may in future be considered as the standing order of this army.

The senior officer of a corps, on being appointed to command a station, must give up entirely the command of his regiment, and from that time he will not, as regards its interior economy, consider it as more especially under his superintendence than any other corps in the cantonment.

The officer who succeeds to the command of the corps will be held responsible, in all respects, for its appearance, good conduct and discipline. The full powers of the commanding officer devolve upon him with the exception of altering any of the standing orders or known established practices of the regiment, for which, by H. M.'s regulations, he must obtain the sanction of the senior and permanent commanding officer.

The officer commanding the corps should invariably consult the senior officer respecting the officers to be recommended for promotion or exchange, and especially on the appointment of an officer to the Adjutancy: should any difference of

opinion exist upon such points, it must be especially reported for the decision of the Commander-in-chief, or stated on the body of the return which is required periodically from the officer commanding the regiment.

H. M.'s regulations strongly enjoin unanimity and good understanding to be maintained amongst the officers of a corps: these feelings are essentially requisite in the superior officers, and where they exist, no difficulty can arise in carrying on the duties of the relative situations now alluded to. Courtesy will induce the junior to consult with the senior on all important matters connected with the regiment; whilst the senior, though freely giving his opinion, will see the necessity and justice of leaving unshackled the junior, who is individually responsible for the discipline and good order of the corps; even should a difference of opinion arise on the alteration of a standing order, which either may consider of importance, an early reference to the decision of the general officer commanding the district will decide the point without any breach of good feeling or mutual confidence.

The foregoing order is to be entered in the general order books, and read at the head of every regiment in H. M.'s service in India.

By order of the Commander-in-chief,
A. MACDONALD,
Adj.-Gen. H. M.'s Forces in India.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Aug. 31. Mr. Robert Bayard, collector and magistrate of Rajahmundry.

Mr. H. Gardiner, ditto of Vizagapatam.

Mr. W. H. Babington, register to Zillah Court of Salem.

Sept. 28. Mr. E. Brennen, master attendant at Tellicherry.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort St. George, July 28, 1826.—Capt. W. J. Butterworth, 36th N.I., to be assist. in qu. mast. gen.'s depart., v. Highmoor.—Capt. W. G. Page, 48th N.I., to act as assist. in ditto until return of Capt. Butterworth from foreign service.

Rifle Corps. Lieut. C. F. Llardet, 14th N.I., to be adj., v. Trollope permitted to return to Europe.

2d Europ. Regt. Lieut. H. F. Barker to be qu. mast. and paym., v. Puget prom.

43d N.I. Lieut. E. C. Manning to be adj., v. Claridge prom.

Infantry. Sen. Maj. W. Jollie, from 4th N.I., to be lieut. col., v. Pepper dec.

4th N.I. Sen. Capt. B. Baker to be maj., Sen. Lieut. Brev. Capt. T. Watson to be capt., and Sen. Ens. W. A. Miller to be lieut. in suc. to Jollie prom.

Measrs. F. Hamilton and T. L. Place admitted to inf., and prom. to ensigns.

Aug. 1.—Col. T. Boles, of inf., placed on staff of army of Fort St. George, and appointed to command Ceded Districts, v. Hewitt dec.

Col. A. Macdowell, of inf., to command Hyderabad Subsid. Force, v. Boles.

3 Z

Lieut.

Lieut. Col. Com. C. Deacon, 40th N.I., to command Nagpore Subsid. Force, v. Macdowell.

Lieut. Col. Com. T. Pollok, 22d N.I., to command Light Field Div. of Hyderabad Subsid. Force at Jaulnah, v. Deacon.

Lieut. Col. Com. J. Welsh, 41st N.I., to command field force in Dooab, v. Pollok.

Lieut. Col. Com. J. D. Greenhill, 34th L.I., to command Travancore Subsid. Force, v. Welsh.

Lieut. Col. Com. E. Boardman, 43th N.I., to command presidency cantonment, v. Greenhill.

Capt. J. Sinclair, 29th N.I., to command 1st bat. pioneers, v. Crowe dec.

8th L.C. Sen. Cornet C. C. Cottrell to be lieut., v. Shalpr invalided.

45th N.I. Sen. Ens. W. R. A. Freeman to be lieut., v. Wilford dec.

Capt. J. Low, 17th N.I., to be political agent at Jypore, from 9th June 1826.

Aug. 4.—45th N.I. Sen. Ens. J. Hayne to be lieut., v. Stephenson dec.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 5, 1826.—Ens. A. M. M'Call to do duty with 35th N.I.

Aug. 8.—Maj. Gen. J. Dighton removed from 11th to 32d N.I., and Lieut. Col. Com. T. Stewart (late prom.) posted to 11th N.I.

Removals and Postings of Lieut. Col. of Infantry.
E. W. Snow from 23d to 1st N.I. A. Andrews from 45th to 49th do. B. B. Parby from 36th to 19th do. G. Cadell from 6th to 23d do. G. L. Wahab from 35th to 33d do. H. W. Sale from 49th to 35th do. B. W. Lee from 19th to 11th do. R. West from 15th to 45th do. G. Jackson from 39th to 32d do. H. A. Purchas from 17th to 39th do. J. Wight from 37th to 4th do. J. Wahab from 33d to 34th do. A. Grant from 4th to 37th do. A. Balmain from 1st to 30th do. G. M. Steuart (late prom.) posted to 17th do. M. Cubbon (late prom.) to 6th do. W. Jollie (late prom.) to 15th do.

Fort St. George, Aug. 8.—*Postings of Field Officers of Invalid Establishment.* Lieut. Col. J. Nixon to Carnatic Europe. Vet. Bat.; Lieut. Col. S. Taynton to 1st Nat. Vet. Bat.; Lieut. Col. J. Haslewood to 2d do.; Maj. J. Simpson to 3d do.; Lieut. Col. C. Mandeville to 4th do.

Aug. 11.—Lieut. Col. Armstrong, H.M.'s Royal Regt., to command at Bangalore.

18th N.I. Sen. Ens. H. Green to be lieut., v. Milne dec.

43d N.I. Sen. Ens. T. Sharp to be lieut., v. Moor dec.

Aug. 15.—Capt. C. G. Alves, 18th N.I., to resume his app. of maj. of brigade in centre div. of army.

Mr. T. P. Walsh admitted to inf., and prom. to ensign.

Aug. 22. Capt. T. K. Limond, 3d L.C., to be paym. to Hyderabad Subsid. Force, v. Browne dec.

Capt. W. Williamson, 3d Lt. Inf., to be paym. in Ceded Districts, v. Baker prom.

Lieut. H. Power, 33d N.I., to be 2d assist. to mil. auditor gen.

Capt. H. Mitchell, 6th N.I., to act as paym. to Light Field Div. of Hyderabad Subsid. Force at Jaulnah, during absence of Capt. Laurie.

Aug. 26.—*Artillery.* Sen. Maj. W. M. Burton to be lieut. col., v. Mackintosh ret.; Sen. Capt. J. Ketchen to be maj., v. Wilkinson dec.; Sen. 1st-Lieut. W. S. Hele to be capt., v. Lewis dec.

6th L.C. Sen. Lieut. G. Sandys to be capt., and Sen. Cornet J. Oakley to be lieut., v. Balmain ret.

1st Europ. Regt. Sen. Lieut. H. J. Charlton to be capt., and Sen. Ens. F. H. Hopper to be lieut., v. Fenwick retired.

46th N.I. Sen. Ens. J. Benwell to be lieut., v. Mayo retired.

Cadets admitted. Messrs. R. R. Hunter and H. Montgomery to artil., and prom. to 2d-lieuts.—Mr. W. H. Atkinson to engineers, and prom. to 2d-lieut.—Messrs. T. H. Woodhouse, A. Heywood, J. C. Fortescue, R. Bradstreet, E. Hughes, T. Back, C. W. Walker, W. H. Dearsley, J. Thompson, D. Hayes, R. Gordon, G. Pinnock, T. W. Steele, J. O. C. Farran, F. Gray, A. E. M. Kinloch,

and F. W. Humphreys, to inf., and prom. to ensigns.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 11.—*Postings in Artillery.* 2d-Lieuts. H. Rumsey to 3d bat.: A. Beadnell to 2d bat.; 11. H. Mortimer, G. Balfour, and W. K. Lloyd to 3d bat.

Aug. 15.—Ens. T. D. Roberts removed from 30th to 35th N.I., and Ens. T. W. Jones from 11th N.I. to 1st Europ. Regt.

Aug. 18.—Assist. Surg. J. Kelman removed from 27th, and posted to 36th N.I.

Ens. J. J. G. Congdon removed from 2d to 46th N.I.

Aug. 23.—*Re-postings and Postings of Cornets.* E. A. Humphreys to 8th L.C. J. Whistler, 6th do. H. Fraser, 5th do. J. K. Macdonald, 8th do. P. T. Cherry, 4th do. F. F. French, 6th do. C. C. Ferrers, 7th do. J. M. Macdonald 5th do.

Re-postings and Postings of Ensigns. W. H. Yarde to 2d Europ. Regt. C. W. Burdett, 41st N.I. J. Bower, 26th do. H. Harriott, 38th do. J. A. Macartney, 38th do. A. Barker, 33d do. W. Buckley, 18th do. J. H. Robley, 43d do. W. Pyfe, 45th do. D. Birley, 27th do. H. Pritchard, 8th do. H. A. Kennedy, 14th do. A. B. Johnston, 46th do. R. Taylor 11th do. T. L. Place, 44th do. F. Hamilton, 2d Europ. Regt. Jos. Martyr, 36th N.I. John Wilkinson, 35th do. C. H. Warren, 25th do. T. M'Goun, 6th do. A. M. M'Call, 26th do. T. W. Cooke, 23d do. J. E. Hughes, 47th do. T. H. Hull, 1st Europ. Regt. W. G. Yarde, 3d or P. L. L. R. Gordon, 37th N.I. E. Hughes, 39th do. J. C. Fortescue, 1st do. T. M. Woodhouse, 26th do. C. W. Walker, 29th do. A. Heywood, 15th do. D. Hayes, 38th do. J. Thomson, 5th do. T. Back, 2d do. R. Bradstreet, 33d do. W. H. Dearsley, 11th do. J. Y. Wilkinson, 9th do. T. J. Ryves, 43d do. H. Wilson, 81st do. P. Penny, 7th do. H. O. Marshall, 42d do. J. W. Nixon, 17th do. J. E. Glynn, 4th do. G. A. Tulloch, 45th do. C. A. Butler, 21st do. N. Spence, 24th do. J. M. Madden, 27th do. J. Wright, 19th do. J. S. Greenwell, 46th do. W. N. Fortescue, 8th do. E. L. Durant, 20th do. B. Pogson, 22d do. H. R. Dardis, 13th do. J. Cannan, 14th do. W. H. Pigott, 46th do. H. J. Willis, 30th do. A. R. Rose, 54th do.

Aug. 26.—*Postings of Cornets and Ensigns.* Cornet R. Taylor to 2d L.C.—Ensigns A. M. Kinloch to 34th or C. L. L. G. Pinnock, 12th N.I. J. O. C. Farran, 11th do. T. W. Steele, 40th do. F. W. Humphreys, 44th do. F. Gray, 2d Europ. Regt.

Lieut. E. Amsinck removed from 1st to 2d brigade horse artillery, and Lieut. A. G. Hyslop from 2d to 1st brigade ditto.

Aug. 28.—*Cornets and Ensigns appointed to do duty.* Cornets H. S. Waters and B. S. Sullivan, with 3d L.C.—Ensigns J. S. Moore with 2d Extra Regt. W. Cantis, 6th N.I. J. Stewart, 42d do. T. S. Wilson, 2d Extra Regt. F. Gottreux, 6th N.I. G. Reade, 42d do. E. W. Kenworthy, A. S. Gore, P. A. S. Powys, and J. Kemphorne, 2d Extra Regt. J. Halpin and G. Halpin 26th N.I. Jackson, 2d Extra Regt.

Aug. 31.—*Removals.* Lieut. J. T. Ashton from 2d to 4th bat. artil.; Surg. J. T. Conran from 7th L.C. to 2d N.I., and Surg. R. Neilson from latter to former; Ens. T. W. Steele from 40th to 16th N.I.

Sept. 2.—*Removals.* Ens. F. Gray from 2d Europ. Regt. to 35th N.I.; Ens. G. A. Tulloch, from 45th to 33d N.I.; Corn. J. M. Macdonald from 5th to 1st L.C.; Ens. J. M. Madden from 27th to 43d N.I.; Ens. R. Bradstreet from 33d to 37th ditto; Ens. J. Wright from 19th to 6th ditto.

Fort St. George, Aug. 29.—*Cadets admitted.* Messrs. B. S. Sullivan, H. S. Waters, and L. Moore to cav., and prom. to cornets.—Messrs. G. Reade, E. W. Kenworthy, A. S. Gore, P. A. S. Powys, J. Stewart, J. Kemphorne, J. S. Moore, W. Cantis, F. Gottreux, T. S. Wilson, J. Halpin, H. Jackson and G. Halpin, to inf., and prom. to ensigns.

Capt. J. Howison, 6th N.I., re-admitted on estate.

Lieut. v. Mathias, 14th N.I., to have rank of brev. capt. from 24th Aug.

Messrs. W. Bulter and A. Millingen admitted as assist.

assist. surg., and app. to do duty with gar. surg. of Fort St. George.

Sept. 1.—1st L.C. Sen. Corn. P. A. Walker to be lieutenant, v. Thwaites dec.

20th N.I. Sen. Lieut. J. Forrest to be capt., and Sen. Ens. F. L. Nicolay to be lieutenant, v. Cocke dec.

Mr. D. H. Stevenson admitted to inf., and prom. to ensign.

Sept. 5.—Capt. F. B. Doveton, 4th L.C., to be aide-de-camp to Maj. Gen. Sir John Doveton, commanding centre div. of army.

Ens. R. Taylor, of inf., transferred to cav., and prom. to cornet.

Sept. 8.—*Cadets admitted.* Messrs. H. W. Wood, C. M. Maclean, J. D. P. O'Neill, J. R. Grose, F. B. Lys, R. Dawney, J. S. Lang, H. S. Kennedy, and J. G. McNab, to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. J. Ladd as assist. surg., and app. to do duty under gar. surg. of Fort St. George.

Sept. 12.—25th N.I. Sen. Ens. C. O. Backhouse to be lieutenant, v. Sparrow dec.

Lieut. R. Garstin, 2d L.C., permitted to place his services at disposal of resident at Hyderabad.

AUGMENTATION TO THE ARMY.

Fort St. George, Sept. 15, 1826.—In conformity with instructions received from the Hon. the Court of Directors authorizing the addition of two regiments of Native Infantry to the regular establishment of the army of Fort St. George, the Hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that the 1st and 2d Extra regts. of N.I. shall be formed into the 51st and 52d regts. of Native Infantry respectively.

The Governor in Council has resolved that the commissions of the European officers promoted for this augmentation shall bear date from the 8th instant, and that the transfer of officers to the new regiments shall be regulated by the army rank in conformity with the regulations adopted by the Government at Fort William with regard to augmentations of the army of that presidency.

The following promotions and removals are ordered accordingly.

All casualties which may have occurred prior to the 8th inst., but of which no official report has yet been received at the Adj. General's Office, will be considered as affecting officers in those regiments only to which they have been removed without reference to their former corps.

Native Infantry.

To be Lieut. Col. Commandant. Sen. Lieut. Col. A. Fair and W. C. Fraser, to complete estab.

To be Lieut. Col. Sen. Maj. S. S. Gummer, from 45th N.I., v. Fair prom.; H. Downes, from 21st do., v. Fraser prom.; J. Green, from 24th do., to complete estab.; T. King, from 27th do., to complete estab.

45th Regt. Sen. Capt. W. Godley to be maj., Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) J. Macdonald to be capt., and Sen. Ens. J. J. M. Anderson to be lieutenant, in suc. to Gummer prom.

21st Regt. Sen. Capt. J. Stewart to be maj., Sen. Lieut. G. Gray to be capt., and Sen. Ens. D. H. Considine to be lieutenant, in suc. to Downes prom.

24th Regt. Sen. Capt. J. Morgan to be maj., Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) G. Hutchinson to be capt., and Sen. Ens. J. Gordon to be lieutenant, in suc. to Green prom.

27th Regt. Sen. Capt. H. Munn to be maj., Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) H. Bevan to be capt., and Sen. Ens. H. Vanderzee to be lieutenant, in suc. to King prom.

8th Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) G. Lee to be capt., and Sen. Ens. G. de Blaquiere to be lieutenant, v. Maclaren prom. in 51st regt.

12th Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) R. Sheldon to be capt., and Sen. Ens. G. S. Mowatt to be lieutenant, v. Fenwick prom. in 52d regt.

4th Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) C. St. J. Grant to be capt., and Sen. Ens. W. C. Chinnery to be lieutenant, v. Hunter rem. to 51st regt.

41st Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) A. Macarthur to be capt., and Sen. Ens. W. E. L. Evelyn to be lieutenant, v. Leggatt rem. to 52d regt.

27th Regt. Sen. Lieut. E. A. M'Curdy to be capt., and Sen. Ens. A. Cuppage to be lieutenant, v. Leighton rem. to 51st regt.

46th Regt. Sen. Lieut. A. Fraser to be capt., and

Sen. Ens. J. Gerrard to be lieutenant, v. Newman rem. to 52d regt.

24th Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) C. Sinclair to be capt., and Sen. E. W. Snow to be lieutenant, v. Steele rem. to 51st regt.

23d Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) C. H. Gibb to be capt., and Sen. Ens. W. Beaumont to be lieutenant, v. Cameron rem. to 52d regt.

7th Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) A. Hendrie to be capt., and Sen. Ens. J. S. Elliott to be lieutenant, v. Hitchens rem. to 51st regt.

4th Regt. Sen. Lieut. J. Metcalfe to be capt., and Sen. Ens. T. J. Fisher to be lieutenant, v. Grant rem. to 52d regt.

30th Regt. Sen. Ens. J. Jones to be lieutenant, v. Wheeler rem. to 51st regt.

25th Regt. Sen. Ens. W. Biddle to be lieutenant, v. Pace rem. to 52d regt.

49th Regt. Sen. Ens. C. Pickering to be lieutenant, v. Baddley rem. to 51st regt.

25th Regt. Sen. Ens. C. A. Cosby to be lieutenant, v. O'Dell rem. to 52d regt.

36th Regt. Sen. Ens. G. P. Vallancy to be lieutenant, v. Barton rem. to 51st regt.

44th Regt. Sen. Ens. R. Gill to be lieutenant, v. M'Callan rem. to 52d regt.

35th Regt. Sen. Ens. J. C. Boulderson to be lieutenant, v. Dowell rem. to 51st regt.

30th Regt. Sen. Ens. W. C. M'Leod to be lieutenant, v. Deane rem. to 52d regt.

45th Regt. Sen. Ens. J. Thomas to be lieutenant, v. Seddon rem. to 51st regt.

32d Regt. Sen. Ens. G. Gibson to be lieutenant, v. Gilby rem. to 52d regt.

19th Regt. Sen. Ens. P. Wilkie to be lieutenant, v. Hitchens rem. to 51st regt.

36th Regt. Sen. Ens. R. H. Robertson to be lieutenant, v. Musgrave rem. to 52d regt.

47th Regt. Sen. Ens. F. Ensor to be lieutenant, v. Panton rem. to 51st regt.

30th Regt. Sen. Ens. E. J. Gascoigne to be lieutenant, v. Baillie rem. to 52d regt.

37th Regt. Sen. Ens. E. J. Simpson to be lieutenant, v. Wright rem. to 51st regt.

40th Regt. Sen. Ens. P. Mellish to be lieutenant, v. Bower rem. to 52d regt.

50th Regt. Sen. Ens. J. Dickson to be lieutenant, v. Hammond rem. to 51st regt.

6th Regt. Sen. Ens. C. J. Cole to be lieutenant, v. Clarke rem. to 52d regt.

26th Regt. Sen. Ens. G. A. Smith to be lieutenant, v. Mackinlay rem. to 51st regt.

15th Regt. Sen. Ens. J. G. Deck to be lieutenant, v. Harris rem. to 52d regt.

45th Regt. Sen. Ens. W. Fyfe to be lieutenant, v. Thomas rem. to 51st regt.

The following officers are posted to the 51st and 52d Regiments N.I. :—

51st Regt. Maj. A. Maclaren from 8th N.I.—Capt. R. Hunter from 41st N.I. J. Leighton from 27th do. S. W. Steele from 24th do. B. R. Hitchens from 7th do. F. H. M. Wheeler from 30th do.—Lieuts. C. H. Baddeley from 49th N.I. T. R. Barton from 36th do. R. Dowell from 35th do. J. H. Seddon from 45th do. H. T. Hitchens from 19th do. T. Panton from 47th do. H. Wright from 37th do. G. Hammond from 50th do. W. S. Mackinlay from 26th do. J. Thomas from 45th do.—Ensigns J. C. Power from 34th N.I. W. E. Lockhart from 13th do. E. Ussher from 49th do. J. M. Maddon from 43d do.

52d Regt. Maj. R. Fenwick from 12th N.I.—Capt. G. Leggatt from 41st N.I. C. Newman from 45th do. J. Cameron from 23d do. C. St. J. Grant from 4th do. W. N. Pace from 25th do.—Lieuts. R. D. O'Dell from 25th N.I.; A. M'Callan from 44th do. J. F. Musgrave from 36th do. G. A. Baillie from 30th do. H. Bower from 40th do. T. A. Clarke from 6th do. H. L. Harris from 15th do. W. Fyfe from 45th do.—Ensigns T. Bayles from 24th N.I. R. R. Scutt from 3d do. T. P. Walsh from 16th do. J. Wright from 6th do. The 3d Extra Regt. will in future be denominated the 1st, and the 4th the 2d Extra Regt.

Head-Quarters, Sept. 19.—Lieut. W. Shairp, of Inv. estab., posted to Carnatic Europ. Vet. Bat.

Sept. 23.—*Cadets posted.* Cornet C. P. Wilder to 8th L.C.; Ens. G. P. Taylor to 33d N.I.; Ens. R. H. James to 35th N.I.; Ens. W. Hollis to 36th N.I.

Sept. 26.—Ens. W. E. Lockhart removed from 13th to 45th N.I.

Sept. 27.—*Removals and postings of Lieut. Colo.* A. Fair (commandant) to 51st N.I.; W. C. Fraser (commandant) to 52d do.; R. H. Yates from 27th to 44th do.; J. M. Coombs from 21st to 52d do.; R. West from 45th to 51st do.; T. Smithwalte from 24th to 16th do.; S. S. Gummer, to 45th do.; H. Downes to 51st do.; J. Green to 24th do.; T. King to 27th do.

Surg. A. Shelden posted to 52d, and Assist. surg. J. Caswall posted to 51st N.I.

Cornet C. P. Wilder removed from 8th to 6th L.C.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Aug. 15. Lieut. S. Carr, 11th N.I., for health.—22. Lieut. H. L. Harris, 15th N.I., for health.—26. Capt. G. Milsom, 9th N.I., for health.—29. Lieut. W. Tudor, 8th N.I., for health.—Assist. surg. G. Beeton.—Sept. 1. Lieut. Col. C. Deacon, 40th N.I.—Surg. J. T. Conran (via Bombay).—12. Capt. R. Gordon, 26th N.I.—Capt. J. Smith, 2d L.C. (via Bombay).

To Sea.—Aug. 8. Capt. J. J. Gamage, of artil., for six months, for health.—25. Capt. R. Smith, 11th N.I., ditto ditto.—Lieut. T. Stockwell, 26th N.I., for four months, for health.—Sept. 12. Ens. H. C. Barrow, 26th N.I., for six months, for health.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Aug. 18. Capt. J. Street, 7th L.C., for twelve months, for health.—22. Capt. W. Shaw, 18th N.I., ditto ditto.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR.

The Hon. the Governor left Madura on the 26th August, and the Camp reached Courtallum on the 1st inst. Heavy rain had fallen immediately after they left Madura; but the weather in the Tinnevely district to the above date had been fine. The party remained at Courtallum till the morning of the 6th—all much pleased with the fresh air and beautiful scenery of the place. The Governor had visited the nutmeg plantations and the falls, and had also examined the sculptures of the Pagoda. The camp was quite healthy.

The Governor reached Dindigul on the 14th; the weather was very hot, but the party quite healthy. Letters of the 16th instant state, they were to quit Dindigul the following day, on route to the Neilgherry Hills, which it was expected they would ascend about the 24th or 25th.

Letters of the 9th Oct. from the camp, state, that it was expected they would reach Bangalore on the following day—they were all well. Their probable stay at the above station is not mentioned.—*Mad. Gov. Gaz.*

PUBLIC ASSEMBLY.

The Assembly on Monday evening was attended by a very numerous party, so crowded indeed that quadrilles were danced in the northern room, as well as that usually appropriated to the purpose. Most of the passengers by the ships from England were among the company present,

and the entertainment was kept up with great spirit till a very late hour.—*Mad. Gov. Gaz. Sept. 7.*

VIOLENT STORM.

H. M. 30th Regiment, in prosecution of their march to Madras from Hyderabad, suffered severely from the commencement of it, to the Kistnah river, by the inclemency of the weather. At Mulkapoor, on the 28th of August, a storm, accompanied by torrents of rain, thunder and lightning, set in with a violence seldom witnessed in these parts, by which all in camp were drenched. This was followed up by another storm if possible more severe, at Narrainpoor, which commenced in the evening of the 29th, and about two o'clock on the morning of the 30th the lightning struck a tent in which two officers were sleeping, split the pole into several pieces from top to bottom, reducing some parts of it to shreds without the slightest marks of fire appearing upon it, while the cloth of the tent was much scorched. A sword was partly melted, and other articles inside the tent bore evidence of fire. The matter which struck the pole burst, making an explosion similar to the report of a 13-inch shell. The shock was felt by the whole regiment, who on repairing to the spot where were the remains of the tent, were astonished to find the two gentlemen uninjured; they of course received hearty congratulations on their remarkable escape.

The roads have been dreadfully cut up, by the constant bad weather overflowing of tanks, &c. [*Mad. Gov. Gaz. Sept. 14.*]

LAW PROCEEDINGS AT BOMBAY.

Our friends at Bombay have either strangely changed in character of late from a quiet peaceable set of people into a litigious quarrelsome community, or the newspaper reporters pay more attention to the proceedings of the Supreme Court than they were wont to do; for we scarcely take up a paper now without a long legal report—which is the case we presume not to decide. The lawyers on that side of India really seem to have all the fun to themselves, for as far as we can learn there is very little doing here.—*Mad. Cour. Sept. 5.*

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Sept. 4.—*Palmitra*, Lamb, from London.—29. *Lady Raffles*, Coxwell, and *Morley*, Halliday, both from London.—Oct. 1. *Hope*, Flint, from London. 3. *Circassian*, Douthwaite, from Calcutta.—7. *Georgiana*, Haylett, from Calcutta.—9. *Jane*, Moncrieff, from Calcutta.—10. *Lalla Rookh*, Stewart, from London.

Departures.

Aug. 31.—*Venus*, Hague, and *City of Edinburgh*, Milne, for Calcutta.—*Sept. 8.* *Palmitra*, Lamb, for Calcutta.—24. *Melpomene*, Johnson, for Calcutta. Oct.

—Oct. 4. *Morley*, Halliday, and *Abberton*, Percival, both for Calcutta.—7. *Hope*, Flint, for Calcutta.—10. *Lady Raffles*, Coxwell, for Calcutta.—11. *Circassian*, Douthwaite, for Ceylon and London.—14. *Jane*, Moncrieff, for Ceylon.—15. *Georgiana*, Haylett, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

- July*. 12. At Berhampoor, the lady of J. T. Anstey, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
Aug. 2. At Kamptee, Mrs. M. Cornelius, of a son.
 12. At Wallajahbad, the wife of Mr. G. G. Donald, of the medical department, of a son.
 14. At Bangalore, the lady of the Rev. W. Campbell, of a daughter.
 16. The lady of C. Gulchard, Esq., junior, of a daughter.
 19. At Trichinopoly, the lady of Capt. J. Fulton, dep. assist. q. r. mast. gen.' southern division, of a daughter.
 — At New Town, Mrs. A. E. Halfcome, of a daughter.
 — Mrs. S. D. Vanspall, of a daughter.
 21. The lady of F. A. Robson, Esq., civil service, of a son.
 26. At Pondicherry, the lady of John Benjamin, Esq., of a son.
 28. The lady of Arathoon Kerakoose, Esq., of a son.
Sept. 6. At Arcot, the wife of Mr. Sub. Assist. surg. J. Hall, of a son.
 8. The lady of Edw. Gordon, of Myrtle Grove, Esq., of a daughter.
 10. At Secunderabad, the lady of Lieut. W. Ager, 2d regt. Nizam's infantry, of a daughter.
 21. At Secunderabad, the lady of Capt. Cuxton, of a son.
 22. At Girgaum, the lady of Capt. Crockett, of a son.
 24. At Trichinopoly, the lady of James Wyse, Esq., of a son.
 — At Trichinopoly, the lady of John Bird, Esq., of a son.
Oct. 1. At Vellore, the lady of Lieut. H. Cotton, quart. mast. and paymast. 10th N.I., of a daughter.
 2. Ann Apella, wife of Mr. H. Hamilton, of a daughter.
 5. The lady of Lieut. C. Keating, of a son.
 6. At Ingeram, Mrs. Linares, of a daughter.
 7. The lady of F. W. Russell, Esq., of a son.
 9. At Luz, Mrs. J. S. Corner, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- July* 19. Mr. R. Ashton, engraver, to Miss A. H. Coombs.
Aug. 17. At Bangalore, Lieut. and Quart. Mast. F. Chalmers, 22d regt. N.I., to Miss Mariamne Smith.
 — Lieut. N. F. Johnson, 26th regt. N.I., to Bridget Mary Ibert, second daughter of the Venerable the Archdeacon of Madras.
 19. At Vepery, Mr. G. W. Steele, of the Medical Department, to Miss C. Purcell.
 31. Edw. Hughes, Esq., Madras Military Establishment, to Mary Sophia, daughter of C. W. Steer, Esq., of the Bengal civil service.
Sept. 9. Lieut. Col. W. H. Smith, commanding 7th regt. N.I., to Frances Ann, youngest daughter of the late H. Atkins, Esq., of Aird, Inverness-shire.
Oct. 2. At Bangalore, Cartland Taylor, Esq., of the horse artillery, to Emily Mariana, eldest daughter of Lieut. Col. Chambers, H.M.'s 87th regt.
 6. W. Fasken, Esq., M.D., Madras Establishment, to Miss Jane Innes.
 14. At Bangalore, Lieut. J. Smith, 31st or T. L. I., to Miss Saurel.
 16. Mr. W. Cooke to Miss M. Fountaine.

DEATHS.

- July* 11. On board the *William Money*, Lieut. C. P. Moor, 43d regt. N.I.
 30. Lieut. Mowbray Stephenson, 36th N.I.
Aug. 10. Henrietta Jane, infant daughter of Mr. H. Blacker, aged 11 months.

11. W. D. Brodie, Esq., of Brodie, in North Britain, and register of the Carnatic debts at Madras.
 13. At Secunderabad, Isabella, third daughter of the late Geo. Maidman, Esq., Madras civil service, aged 21.
 15. At Pondicherry, Ann Emily, lady of P. Parizet, Esq., commissaire de marine at this presidency.
 16. At the Callachabootu Ghaut, on the left bank of the Kistnah, Lieuts. John Campbell and Fraser, of H.M.'s 40th regt., of spasmodic cholera.
 21. Mrs. S. D. Vanspall, second daughter of B. A. Stork, Esq., late resident at Poonacail, of his Netherlands' Majesty's service.
 24. Mrs. R. Hayes, aged 39.
 31. Ens. J. G. Brew, 35th regt. N.I., aged 24.
Sept. 3. Charles, infant son of Mr. C. Jean.
 6. Patrick Miller, Esq., M.D., 5th N.I., son of W. Miller, Esq., late major Royal Horse Guards.
 8. At Trichinopoly, Lieut. Nixon, H.M.'s 40th regt.
 9. At Bangalore, Esther, wife of Mr. G. Brasher, aged 47.
 10. Mr. R. Archbald, troop quarter-master, of 1st brigade horse artillery, aged 36.
 11. Mr. W. Dublere, trumpet-major of the Hon. the Governor's Body Guard.
 12. J. D. Newbolt, Esq., of the civil service, eldest son of the late Sir John H. Newbolt, formerly chief justice of the Supreme Court of this settlement.
 — The infant son of Lieut. S. Prescott, 5th N.I., aged one year.
 15. Thomas Charles, infant son of Mr. J. R. Daily.
 18. At Quilon, Capt. G. B. Wardell, 15th N.I.
 20. At Ellichpore, Lieut. J. W. Wakefield, of the Bengal Artillery, aged 23.
 23. Robert McLeod, infant son of Mr. P. Carstairs.
 26. At Masulipatan, Thos. Trotter, Esq., superintending surgeon northern division.
 27. At Pondicherry, St. J. J. Watkins, only son of Capt. A. Watkins, 7th L.C., aged five months.
 28. Mr. E. Kenny, of the Accountant General's office, aged 26.
 29. Capt. and Paymaster E. G. Smith, H.M.'s 54th regt.
Oct. 5. Christopher, infant son of Lieut. Keating.
 6. Mary, youngest daughter of the late John Brady, Esq., of the Victualling Office, Somerset House, aged 20.
 8. The infant son of F. W. Russell, Esq.

Bombay.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

- Bombay Castle*, *Sept.* 2, 1826.—Messrs. G. W. Walker, W. G. Duncan, C. S. Mant, J. R. Hilbert, and A. Meadows, admitted to infantry and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. J. Gibson admitted an assist. surgeon.
Sept. 9.—2d *Gr. N.I.* Lieut. W. C. Freeman to be adj., v. Rollings prom.
Sept. 15.—Lieut. J. Laing, 21st N.I., to have rank of capt. by brevet from 5th *Sept.*
 14th *N.I.* Ens. R. Shortreed to be lieut., v. J. S. T. Rebenack dec.; Ens. C. G. Calland to be lieut., v. D. L. Victor dec.
 19th *N.I.* Lieut. H. Hancock to be capt., and Ens. D. Graham to be lieut., in suc. to McIntyre dec.
 20th *N.I.* Ens. C. Short to be lieut., v. Hawkes dec.

AUGMENTATION TO THE ARMY.

Bombay Castle, *Sept.* 16, 1826.—The Hon. the Court of Directors having been pleased to sanction an augmentation to the army under this presidency, by the conversion of two of the extra battalions into regiments of the line, the Hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to direct, that the 1st and 2d extra battalions be in future designated the 25th and 26th Regiments of Native Infantry, respectively, and the following promotions and removals

removals are accordingly ordered, to have effect from the 8th instant.

Infantry.

Sen. Lieut. Col. E. W. Shuldham and John Mayne to be lieut. cols. commandant on augmentation.

Sen. Majors W. H. Stanley and J. J. Preston to be lieut. cols., v. Shuldham and Mayne prom.

Sen. Majors C. W. Ellwood and C. Whitehill to be lieut. cols. on augmentation.

European Regiments.

1st Regt. Ens. J. Stirling to be lieut., v. R. J. Crozier to 26th N.I.; Ens. T. G. Fraser to be lieut., v. A. Ore rem. to 25th N.I.

2d Regt. Sen. Capt. J. Sheriff to be major, Lieut. C. W. Watkins to be capt., and Ens. G. C. Pulling to be lieut., in suc. to J. J. Preston prom.; Lieut. Edw. Steuart to be capt.; and Ens. H. Stiles to be lieut. in suc. to G. C. Taylor rem. to 26th N.I.

Native Infantry.

1st Gr. Regt. Sen. Capt. J. B. Dunsterville to be major, Lieut. T. R. Billamore to be capt., and Ens. R. Stark to be lieut., in suc. to Jos. Brown rem. to 25th regt.; Ens. A. C. Heighington to be lieut., v. H. C. Teasdale rem. to 25th regt.

3d Regt. Lieut. C. F. Elderton to be capt., and Ens. John Hallett to be lieut., in suc. to J. Hancock rem. to 26th Regt.; Ens. John Wright to be lieut., v. H. Stephenson rem. to 25th regt.

4th Regt. Ens. F. C. Holl to be lieut., v. T. H. Otley rem. to 25th regt.

5th Regt. Ens. W. Unwin to be lieut., v. H. Spencer rem. to 25th regt.

6th Regt. Ens. G. J. Graham to be lieut., v. J. B. M. Gillanders rem. to 25th regt.

7th Regt. Lieut. G. Lloyd to be capt., and Ens. G. Richardson to be lieut., in suc. to J. B. Seely rem. to 25th regt.

8th Regt. Lieut. Edw. Dumaresq to be capt., and Ens. W. C. Maulestey to be lieut. in suc. to T. Marshall rem. to 25th regt.

9th Regt. Sen. Capt. R. W. Flemming to be maj., Lieut. R. Meldrum to be capt., and Ens. J. B. Bellas to be lieut., in suc. to C. W. Ellwood prom.; Lieut. J. A. Crosby to be capt., and Ens. Wm. Purves to be lieut., in suc. to S. Powell rem. to 26th regt.; Ens. M. Smith to be lieut., v. G. Smith rem. to 26th regt.

10th Regt. Sen. Capt. A. G. Rigby to be major, Lieut. E. Hallum to be capt., and Ens. Geo. Wilson to be lieut., in suc. to C. Whitehill prom.; Ens. H. Ashton to be lieut., v. G. Wilson rem. to 26th regt.

11th Regt. Ens. J. Whitmore to be lieut., v. T. R. Gordon rem. to 26th regt.

12th Regt. Ens. T. Maughan to be lieut., v. F. Fortune rem. to 26th regt.

13th Regt. Ens. J. C. Carpenter to be lieut., v. G. Tollemache rem. to 25th regt.

15th Regt. Sen. Capt. E. Pearson to be major, Lieut. J. Saunders to be capt., and Ens. J. F. Foster to be lieut., in suc. to W. H. Stanley prom.; Ens. J. Chesshyre to be lieut., v. B. McMahon rem. to 25th regt.; Ens. J. Jackson to be lieut., v. G. Macan rem. to 25th regt.

16th Regt. Ens. S. Landon to be lieut., v. H. Hopkins rem. to 25th regt.

17th Regt. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) W. Stirling to be capt., and Ens. G. Johnson to be lieut., in suc. to P. W. Pedlar rem. to 25th regt.; Ens. A. Goldie to be lieut., v. C. C. Rebenack rem. to 26th regt.

18th Regt. Lieut. J. H. M. Luyken to be capt., and Ens. D. Davidson to be lieut., in suc. to M. Soppitt rem. to 26th regt.; Ens. W. D. Cruikshank to be lieut., v. C. J. F. Pottinger, rem. to 26th regt.

20th Regt. Ens. S. C. Baldwin to be lieut., v. J. Munt rem. to 25th regt.

21st Regt. Lieut. and Brev. Capt. J. Laing to be capt. on augmentation, and rem. to 26th regt.; Ens. J. Holland to be lieut., v. J. Laing rem. to 26th regt.

22d Regt. Lieut. R. W. Smith to be capt., and Ens. G. Pope to be lieut., in suc. to A. Grafton rem. to 25th regt.

23d Regt. Sen. Capt. in Line R. Barnwell to be major on augmentation, and rem. to 26th regt.;

Lieut. Scott to be capt., and Ens. B. W. Gaultier to be lieut., in suc. to R. Barnwell prom., and rem. to 26th regt.; Ens. P. T. French to be lieut., v. A. Woodburn rem. to 25th regt.

24th Regt. Lieut. T. M. Baile to be capt., and Ens. J. C. Anderson to be lieut., in suc. to W. Ogilvie rem. to 26th regt.

The 25th and 26th regiments are to be officered as follows:—

25th Regt. Major J. Brown.—Captains P. W. Pedlar, A. Grafton, J. Hancock, J. B. Seely, and F. Marshall.—Lieuts. B. McMahon, H. Spencer, H. C. Teasdale, H. Hopkins, G. Macan, H. Stephenson, A. Woodburn, A. Ore, J. Munt, and G. Tollemache.—Ensigns G. Clarkson, H. H. Doherty, and F. D. Bagshawe (2 vacant).

26th Regt. Major R. Barnwell.—Captains M. Soppitt, W. Ogilvie, S. Powell, G. C. Taylor, and J. Laing.—Lieuts. G. Smith, W. W. Dowell, C. C. Rebenack, F. H. Gordon, F. Fortune, T. H. Ottley, R. J. Crozier, C. J. Pottinger, J. B. Gilman, and G. Wilson.—Ensigns E. H. Ramsay and C. S. Thomas (3 vacant).

As the principles on which the preceding promotions and removals have been made differ materially from the rules hitherto observed on such occasions, the Hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to publish to the army the following detail of the system acted on in the present instance.

1st. The two senior lieut. cols. are promoted to the rank of lieut. cols. commandant.

2d. The two senior majors are promoted to lieut. cols. in succession to the above, and the two next seniors to the same rank for the augmentation.

3d. The promotion to majors, captains, lieutenants, and ensigns, in succession to the foregoing, being in strict conformity to the usage of the service.

4th. The promotions of the two senior captains on the gradation list to majorities for the augmentations, and the consequent regimental promotions in succession.

5th. The posting of majors to the new regiments by selection of one out of the majors in those corps whose senior captains have been made majors for the augmentation, with reference to the standing in the line of the next captain of the same regiment.

6th. The transfers of captains, lieutenants, and ensigns have been calculated on the principle lately acted upon by the Supreme Government, viz. that the removing officers if requisite in the class they may happen to be in their old corps, if by such removal they can be placed higher up in the same class for succession to a majority; and also of allowing the brevet rank of captain conferred on subalterns of fifteen years' standing, its full operation in selecting for transfer to a new regiment, without reference to the date of the last regimental commission of an officer who has been previously promoted to the rank of captain by brevet.

Back rank will not be granted to officers removed to any of the new regiments, in consequence of casualties in their former corps not known to Government on the date of promulgating the final orders of promotion, and postings; and on the same principle the old regiments will not be entitled to the advantage of any casualty of an officer removed, such casualty is to be filled up from the date of occurrence in the corps to which the officer may be removed.

Sept. 18.—Cadets T. W. Hickes and J. E. Scott Waring permanently posted to artillery; to rank as 2d lieut. from 16th Dec. 1836, and 1st lieut. from 3d June 1837.

Sept. 23.—The promotions and transfers consequent to the augmentation of the army leaving a lieutenantancy vacant in the 9th N.I., and the ensigns in others unequally distributed, the following removals are to be made to equalize the latter rank by the transfer of the eight senior of those ensigns who have signified their consent to be removed to another regiment with the advantage of gaining a step, the first of whom (Ens. G. Whichelo) is promoted to fill the vacant lieutenantancy in the 9th N.I., with the date of rank 1st Sept. 1836:—

Ensigns G. Whichelo from 21st to 9th N.I.; H. H. Doherty from 26th to 7th do.; C. S. Thomas from 26th to 23d do.; E. A. Guerin from 6th to 14th do.; F. D. Bagshawe from 25th to 5th do.; N. Thornbury from 6th to 4th do.; P. K. Skinner from

from 11th to 9th do.; G. Lloyd from 19th to 7th do.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Sept. 6. Lieut. W. Tudor, 8th Madras N.I.—9. Capt. R. Gordon, of engineers.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

On Saturday the 29th Sept. was held the Annual Meeting of the Auxiliary Bible Society, when the report of the committee was read; from which it appeared that 9,711 copies of the whole, or parts of the Scriptures, have been distributed during the year. Of these, 9,141 were different books of the scriptures in the Mahratta and Goojurattee languages. Copies of the scriptures in Arabic, Persian, and Syriac have been sent into Persia, for the use of the different classes of Christians in that country. A new edition of the New Testament in Goojurattee is now in the press, and it is proposed to print a second edition of the Old Testament in that language. The last edition of the New Testament in Mahratta having been nearly all distributed, a new edition of 5,000 copies will shortly be commenced upon: for this five hundred reams of printing paper have been granted by the parent society. The assistance which the Auxiliary Society affords in bringing the scriptures in Mahratta and Goojurattee through the press, is by paying the expense of printing. The benefactions and annual subscriptions for the last year amount to Rs. 1,150; the amount of payments to Rs. 2,505, of which Rs. 2,000 is for the expense of printing the second edition of the New Testament in Goojurattee. The balance in favour of the Society is Rs. 9,622. Many applications are made for the Scriptures in Mahratta and Goojurattee, and as education shall be extended, these calls upon them will doubtless become more numerous; but the Society relies with confidence upon the liberality of its friends to enable it to meet them.—*Bom. Cour. Oct. 7.*

THE MOHARAM.

Tuesday was the last day of the Musselmaun festival of the Moharam. We have not heard whether any people actually lost their lives during this scene of riot and drunkenness, but several were, we understand, severely hurt, and we ourselves saw two Sheeahs, whose broken heads and bloody faces shewed that they had not witnessed with indifference the insult offered to the memory of the sons of Ally. We understand that during the celebration of the Moharam in Calcutta, none of those engaged in it are allowed to

carry weapons of any sort about them; and that on the day of the grand procession of the taboot, the whole of the shops of the liquor-venders are ordered to be shut up. We wish similar regulations were adopted here, as large clubs and naked sabres appear to be reckoned at present the most necessary and ornamental paraphernalia of the pageantry, but which, in our opinion, might be much more safely disposed of than in the hands of those whose minds are often in a state of undue excitement, from the effects of arrack or intoxicating drugs. It has been brought to our notice, that on Sunday last the congregation had hardly left St. Thomas's Church before that place of worship was surrounded by itinerant groups of pseudo-fakeers and drunken bacchanals, whose deafening howling and yelling, and the noise and discordancy of the attendant music, disturbed the whole neighbourhood for several hours; and it is much to be questioned whether we do not on some occasions carry our tolerating principles in this country a little too far. The measures taken by the police prevented any serious disturbance: but still accidents must occur where there are opposing sects, and where arms are allowed to be carried in such processions as are likely to bring them into collision. We have often wondered that some of the more learned Mahomedans have never endeavoured to put down a festival, which is not acknowledged in those countries where their religion is supposed to exist in its greatest purity, and which is generally attended by inhabitants who shew that the prophet's injunctions in respect to temperance are but little attended to in the present day. If it must go on, however, we would wish to see it conducted under better regulations than exist at present.—*Bom. Cour. Aug. 17.*

SHIP-BUILDING.

We are glad to observe the activity which now prevails in the dock-yard at this port, where, in addition to the ships building for his Majesty's and the Honourable Company's service, and those undergoing repairs, a new ship of 600 tons, intended for the trade between London and this port, was commenced on the 1st of last month, and is already in such a state of forwardness as to be expected to be floated out in December.—*Bom. Cour. Aug. 13.*

LIMJEE CAWAJEE.

On Tuesday last Limjee Cawajee gave a splendid ball and supper, at the new house lately erected by him in Nesbit Lane. Among the party we noticed Sir Edward and Lady West, Mr. and Mrs. Warden,

Warden, Sir Charles Chambers, and many of the leading members of our society, as also a number of respectable natives. The party was one of the largest we have witnessed in Bombay, nearly two hundred and fifty people having sat down to supper. The hospitable landlord did all he could to make his guests happy and comfortable, and succeeded most admirably. Dancing was kept up till nearly three o'clock, and in fact, society is indebted to Limjee Cawajee for the enjoyment of as pleasant and amusing an evening as has fallen to their lot for a long time past.—*Bom. Cour.* Sept. 9.

EXPLOSION AT MAZAGON MILLS.

We are sorry to state that one of the warehouses at the powder manufactory, containing a great quantity of gunpowder in a state of preparation, blew up on Friday night last. The concussion was felt all over the island, and several houses, as far as regarded ceilings, venetians, lamps, wall-shades, and glass windows, suffered severely, while their inmates were subjected to great temporary alarm. Four of the sepoys on guard, and three men in boats, or in the Mazagon dock, which is in the immediate neighbourhood, were killed by the explosion. It is quite impossible to account for the ignition of the powder, as all the usual precautions had been taken to prevent people from approaching the manufactory. The loss in materials and buildings, we understand, amounts to 70,000 rupees.—*Bombay Courier.*

THE RACES.

We are happy to observe from the plan for the ensuing races, that there is every prospect of good amusement this season, and that some new cups have been added to the usual number. One of these, a cup of one hundred guineas, from the Lodge of Freemasons, has been presented by them to the Turf Club, as a return for the accommodation so politely afforded the Lodge by the Club, granting them the use of the race bungalow to hold their meetings in until suitably provided with a lodge-house.—*Ibid.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGE, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

- Aug. 25. At Kaira, the lady of John Williams, Esq., of a son.
Sept. 17. At Belleville, the lady of Lieut. Col. Leighton, C.B., adj. gen., of a son.
Oct. 8. The lady of Capt. Law, of artillery, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

- Sept. 4. At Poona, John Bar., Esq., civil ser-

vice, to Jane, ~~late~~ the late W. Ironside, Esq., of Houghton-le-Spring, county of Durham.

DEATHS.

- Aug. 25. At Kaira, the infant son of John Williams, Esq.
31. William, second son of Mr. G. Higgs, aged 16 months.
Sept. 4. At Malligam, Lieut. Rebermark, 14th N.I., of fever contracted on the march from Mhow.
— Mr. R. Macdowall, superintendent of the Government lithographic press.
5. At Goa, Susanna Jane, wife of Capt. Poulton, 5th N.I., and eldest daughter of J. Leicester, Esq., of White Place, near Reading, county of Berks.
7. At Surat, Mrs. Maria Ormoud, relict of the late Asst. surg. Ormoud.
11. Anna, wife of Mr. A. Kever, Armenian, interpreter and translator to the Supreme Court of Judicature at Bombay, aged 40.
20. Mr. J. E. Campbell, aged 36.

Ceylon.

BISHOP HEBER.

At a meeting of gentlemen of Colombo, it was resolved to propose the following resolutions.

That feeling deeply those sentiments of reverence for the character of our late excellent Bishop which have been manifested throughout India, we deem it right to record them by a testimonial to be put up in the church of Colombo.

That for this purpose a subscription be entered into to defray the expense of a mural tablet, bearing a suitable inscription.

That the amount of each subscription, as in the instance of Bishop Middleton's monument, do not exceed one guinea.

A meeting for the above purpose will be held at the King's-house, at one o'clock, on the 1st day of September next.

At a meeting of the Subscribers for the support and education of Cingalese youths at Bishop's College, Calcutta:

Resolved, That, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late excellent Bishop Heber, the "Colonibo Exhibition," as voted by the resolutions of the 11th September last, shall henceforth be called "Bishop Heber's Exhibition."—*Ceylon Gov. Gaz.* Aug. 26.

BIRTHS.

- July 27. At Tangalle, the lady of W. Glasborne, Esq., Ceylon civil service, of a son.
Aug. 28. At Colombo, the wife of Mr. C. Holdstein, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

- Sept. 25. At Colombo, Mr. D. Landsberger to Miss S. Taylor.

DEATHS.

- Aug. 4. At Point De-Galle, Mr. Rynier Van Alken, secretary to the sitting magistrate of that station, aged 35.
13. At Colombo, George Ormoud, third son of Lieut. Meaden, Ceylon regt., aged 14 months.

Penang.**CHANGE IN THE GARRISON.**

The following is an extract of a letter from Penang:—

"An order has been received at Madras to send Madras troops here, it being the intention of the Court that this place shall in future be garrisoned from Madras and not from Bengal. It is expected, however, that a reference will be made to the Court, and that the Bengal troops actually here will not be removed until the usual time for their relief arrives. The idea in sending Madras troops here is, that they will be cheaper, though I do not understand how they make it out, as their pay, I am assured, is actually higher than that of the Bengal sepoys."—*Bengal Chron.*

NAVAL ETIQUETTE.

Extract of a letter from an officer of the H. C. cruiser *Antelope*, dated Penang, 12th Sept. 1826:—"We arrived here on the 8th instant from Bombay, which we left 9th ultimo, and Colombo (27th), when we landed Sir H. Lowe and suite. On our arrival here we were boarded by H. M. ship *Rainbow's* first lieutenant, who was sent by his commander (Hon. Captain Rous), to know by what authority we hoisted a pendant; in reply to which our commander, Lieutenant Eluon, went on board the *Rainbow*, and waited on the Hon. Captain Rous; to whom he stated that the Hon. C. cruisers had long been accustomed to wear pendants, and that, too, in company with H. M. ships, some of which carried admirals, one in particular (Admiral Blackwood). Lieutenant Eluon shewed his Company's commission (derived from the King), and entered into further explanation, but all to no purpose; and as Captain Rous was not satisfied, and being resolved that no vessel should bear a pendant except the King's, according to the instructions lately received from the Admiralty, he requested us to haul down our pendant—which we refused; and thus perceiving our just but determined obstinacy, he sent his first lieutenant with a boat's crew for that purpose, which was effected by them without opposition. We appealed to the Hon. Mr. Fullerton, governor, for redress, but did not meet with that satisfaction naturally due on such an occasion; he stated he could be of no avail, but would forward to the Admiral of the station, and the Governor in Council at Bombay, the whole proceedings."—*Beng. Hurk. Oct. 26.*

BIRTHS.

July 26. The lady of A. J. Kerr, Esq., of a daughter.

Asiatic Journ. Vol. XXIII. No. 136.

Sept. 30. The lady of Lieut. Col. Com. Boyd, of an.

MARRIAGE.

Sept. 14. P. O. Carnegie, Esq., of the civil service on this establishment, to Susan, second daughter of Lieut. Col. Imlach, military auditor general, Bengal.

DEATH.

July 13. The Hon. W. Armstrong Cludley, senior member of council of this presidency.

Singapore.

The union of this settlement and Malacca to Penang took place on the 1st of August. The *Singapore Chronicle* of September 28th states, that some difficulties connected with the change had occurred at home, relating to the duties to be levied at this port, in which the Court of Directors and Board of Control had been at issue. It is added, that the charter of justice for the incorporated settlements was probably delayed on that account. The same paper of Oct. 12, however states, that the home government had sent out orders to abolish all duties at Penang, Malacca, and Singapore, which are to be free ports.

On the subject of the "incorporation," the following remarks occur in the *Bengal Hurkaru*, of November 1:—

"To Malacca the effects will not be near so injurious, because it is not nor ever was the commercial rival of Pulo Pinang, and its agricultural products would, if judiciously managed, be sufficiently abundant to supply the wants and prevent the scarcity which very frequently prevails in the Pinang markets. The produce of that island is not equal to the support of one-half the inhabitants, and the supplies from the adjacent coast are any thing but regular; the consequence is, that at one time the market is glutted, and at another the commonest necessary of life cannot be procured without paying the most exorbitant price: with Singapore it is different. The highly reprehensible conduct of persons in authority at Pinang towards that colony is well known, even from the time of the first establishment of Sir Stamford Raffles at Singapore. It is an ascertained fact, and we think it will not be questioned at the present day, that no effort was spared to thwart the views of Sir Stamford: and it has even been said, in a quarter not used to make random accusations, that there were those who, from an envious and petty fear of rivalry, united with the Dutch at Malacca, and encouraged them to throw every obstacle in the way of the establishment at Singapore. The Honourable Court of Directors certainly entertain an undue partiality for Pinang, and we

have heard that it was a question hotly discussed, when the unceasing complaints from Pinang made it necessary for the Court to give the rival islands equal advantages with respect to duties, whether it would be more advisable to place the same clogs on the trade of Singapore and Malacca as those which fettered the trade of Pinang, or to make the three ports all equally free. Thanks to "innovations and new theories," the latter measure was agreed upon; but to make amends to Pinang, we suppose, for not adopting the suggestion of its government, the other ports were annexed to it as dependencies. The suggestion, or to use the official words, *recommendation*, was, that the same system of duties, 'with all the vexatious impositions of a native custom-house,' should be established at each of the settlements."

NEW TRADING PORT IN SOUTH AMERICA.

The *Donna Carmelita* arrived here on the 8th from Mazatlan, on the coast of South America. We were not before acquainted with this port as a place of trade, and we understand that it is likely to become a place of some commercial importance. It is situated about 100 miles to the southward of San Blas, and is the nearest sea-port to several extensive towns in the interior. At Rozario, a considerable town about sixty miles inland—there are mines of silver which are at present wrought but in a very imperfect manner. The towns of Kulikari and Corsela, the former a large place containing 20,000 inhabitants, are also situated at no great distance, and all the supplies of foreign goods for these places go now through Mazatlan, where a custom-house has lately been established. The port has only been open to foreign trade since the establishment of the republican government; a direct trade having only been permitted formerly with Acapulco and San Blas. The inhabitants are consequently far behind those of Acapulco, in civilization and knowledge; and although the country affords abundance of silver, there is little of the appearance of wealth amongst the inhabitants, who are on the contrary extremely poor, and generally ill clothed and worse housed. The *Donna Carmelita* lay at Mazatlan for nine months, during which period several British and American vessels had touched there with investments from Europe, China, Manila, &c. The French also drive a considerable trade direct from France, and the unrestrained introduction of the various manufactures of these countries, but particularly that of cotton cloths from England, is likely to supplant the more expensive cotton fabrics of Bengal, which used to be in such general demand.—*Sing. Chron. Oct. 12.*

Netherlands India.

JAVA.

The following is a copy of a letter addressed by the old Sultan of Jojokarta to the Government of Java:—

"From Sultan Mangka Boewana Sepoe, Senapati, Hingnalogo, Abdul Rehman Syedi, Ponotogomo Khalifet Ullah, Adiningrat of Jojokarta, on the ship of war *Melampus*. I send my greetings to the high and illustrious Commissioner General at Batavia, and exercising supreme authority over the Eastern settlements. I solicit from his Excellency, if it be allowable, permission to return to Jojokarta, that I may be once more in the vicinity of the tombs of my forefathers. With respect to the affairs of Jojokarta, I will, with all my ability, promote the views of the government, that the country may be again restored to prosperity. I acknowledge my great grandson as Sultan, and I feel grateful to government for having taken him under their protection and guidance, and I hope that His Excellency will allow me again to see him once more, and to become the medium of confirming his union with the government. I can never consent that Dipo Nagoro shall be Sultan, nor am I satisfied with the conduct of Mangko Boemie. Finally, I request to form a convention with the government. Written on Saturday, the 9th of Soero, in the year 1246 (August 1826.)"

The old Sultan landed from the *Melampus* on the 15th of August, and was conducted in state to Buitenzorg on the 17th, where he was received by the commissioner, and all the civil and military functionaries. Articles of a convention between him and the King of the Netherlands were then agreed upon, and sworn to by him on the koran; after which he was proclaimed lawful sultan of Jojokarta by the name of Sultan Sepoe. Presents were then made him, and a royal salute was fired, and the ceremonies terminated with a dinner and a ball.

This prince, the Amangka Buana II, who was deposed by the British Government in 1812. The Sultan whom he superseded is his great grandson, a minor.—*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*

The New Commissioners.—Our mercantile correspondents complain, that the Netherlands Commissioner De Gessinghies, so far from relieving the distresses of the trade of Batavia, as was fully expected and understood on his arrival from Holland, continues the miserable policy of adding to the already overburdened imposts and vexatious exactions. It is difficult to conjecture what will be the final issue of such complicated embarrassments, and

and pertinacious misgovernment.—*Beng. Hurk. 1. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 829. 830. 831. 832. 833. 834. 835. 836. 837. 838. 839. 8*

The Insurrection.—We have received to-day the *Batavian* papers to the 28th of October. From the several reports published in them, we perceive, indeed, that at the end of September the enemy was very far from being discouraged, and had in various places attacked our troops with numerous corps, and for the most part with great intrepidity; but that our men had almost every where in the end had the advantage, and that the insurgents had suffered much loss. In particular, on the 5th of October, the *desa* of Diatinom, fortified with cannon, was attacked by our troops, and after an obstinate resistance, taken and burnt. Other *dessas*, belonging to the insurgents, have been destroyed in several places. On the 15th of October there was a general engagement near Socracarta, with Doppo Negoro in person, who was advancing against that place with 4,000 men. The enemy defended himself with great fury, and when the first line was driven out of the field, a second, chiefly consisting of pirates, endeavoured to renew the battle, but in vain. It appears that Doppo Negoro has since returned to the mountain Merapie, there to put himself in an almost inaccessible position; but it is thought that he will soon be obliged to retreat for want of provisions. Besides the active services of the moveable columns, great praise is given to the conduct of the officers who have the defence of various forts at Klallan, Tempel, &c. The commander of the fort had made a sally with so much bravery and success, that he reduced the surrounding country to submission, and returned into the fort with great accession of strength.

The old Sultan had arrived on the 20th at Djocjocarta, without much loss, though the journey from Klallan had been attended with some difficulties, all the bridges having been broken down by the rebels. Several Tommongongs on the road from Klallan to Djocjocarta had submitted to the Sultan, and several had fallen in the various actions. All was quiet at Djocjocarta at the end of September. His Excellency the Commissioner General has made a visit to Bantam, from which he returned on the 4th October. His Excellency proceeds in his measures of retrenchment. The last accounts from Djocjocarta were of the 8th, and from Socracarta of the 17th October.—*Dutch Paper, March 10.*

Disputes in the Government.—The *Singapore Chronicle* states that Messrs. Vinna de Grave and Dosee, two members of council, having differed in opinion with the commissioner, protested against his measures, opposed the execution of his decrees, and proceeded to depose the commissioner. The latter, however, is

sued his mandate in the King's name for the arrest of the councillors, who were transmitted to Holland in October.

NOTICES TO NAVIGATORS.

Batavia, 17th August 1826.—The Committee for the Improvement of Indian Charts hereby gives notice to all navigators, that according to a report received from the First Lieutenant, G. H. C. Lutkens, commanding His Majesty's schooner *Zephyr*, a reef was discovered, on the 11th of July, on approaching the roads of Penang, about one mile and a quarter* south from Poelo Tigà, extending about two cables' length from north-east to south-west, and of which the bearings may be laid down as follows, viz.

Poelo Tiga, north.

Poolo Niamo or Mosquito, south-east.

Batavia, 29th August 1826.—The Vice Admiral, President of the Committee for improving the Indian Charts, hereby gives notice to all navigators, that the master of the English schooner *Dhaulie*, G. Bloxland, has discovered a new shoal in the China Seas, from one to two English miles in circumference, and on which there are three fathoms water, according to the statement of the above-named commander. This shoal is situated in 8° 19' N. lat., and 111° 44' E. long. from Greenwich.

Siam.

The H. C. hired brig *Guardian* arrived at Penang on Sunday last, having on board Capt. H. Burney, the Envoy to the Court of Siam from the Right Hon. the Governor General. We are happy to state that the accounts which we had heard of the total failure of the Mission are not quite correct. A treaty of friendship and commerce has been concluded with the Siamese Government, subject to the ratification of the Governor General. We are unable to learn the precise stipulations of this treaty, but we understand that the mission has succeeded in the primary and most important objects for the attainment of which it was deputed. The mission, before its departure from Bangkok, released and forwarded to Tenasserim another party of 640 men (in addition to about 500 already released at Capt. Burney's instance), women and children, whom the Siamese had inhumanly carried away as slaves from our Burmese possessions. — *Penang Gazette*, Sep. 16.

The Calcutta papers have published the particulars of a treaty said to be concluded between the king of Siam and the East-

* Sea miles, or leagues, probably.

East-India Company, on the 15th May, after many difficulties thrown in the way of the measure by the court of Siam. This treaty is said to stipulate for the liberation of captives, the inviolability of the territories of the contracting parties, a friendly intercourse and explicit mutual communication as to each other's projects, &c. This report of the treaty is, however, now stated to be altogether incorrect, but no particulars of its real purport have yet reached us,* nor will be published, probably, till Capt. Burney's return to Calcutta.

Persia.

THE WAR.

We learn, from private sources, that a Mirza (Mahomed Allee) has been sent to Teflis with an offer to treat for peace, and that it is expected a Persian ambassador will shortly proceed to St. Petersburg.

The progress of the war, so far as we collect from the Russian papers, promises no decisive result; the Persians seem passive, and the Russian troops confine themselves to incursions into the territories of the enemy.

Gen. Madatoff passed the Araxes on the 28th Dec. (9th Jan.), and in conjunction with Col. Mitschenko advanced in the direction of Ardabeel, to the little river Zamhour, where he surprised a body of nomade Persian tribes. The cavalry of Karabagh and Shirvan, with the Armenians of Karabagh, attacked their camp with success, and took a vast number of sheep, besides camels and horses. The chief of the Shah Savund Illiauts joined the Russians. About 500 nomade families of Karabagh submitted to the Russians.

Spreading a report that he intended to enter the Khanet of Talish, the Russian general induced the nomade tribes on the borders of that district to take refuge in Meskine, where he attacked them with his light cavalry and Armenian infantry. A vast number of cattle were taken, and Prince Madatoff occupied the little town of Laka or Lori, in the district of Meskine. Allee Khan, the governor of the district, and his brother, placed themselves under the protection of Prince Madatoff, and took an oath of fidelity to Russia. The terror of this incursion reached to Tabreez, which the Russians approached within sixty miles. The corps under the command of the prince is stated at 11,000 troops of different descriptions, with thirty-five pieces of artillery.

Prince Madatoff has since recrossed the Araxes, and retired.

* Except those given in p. 302.

China.

POLITICAL STATE OF THE EMPIRE.

On this subject we refer our readers to a communication from a valuable correspondent at Canton, intimately acquainted with the country, which is inserted in a preceding department of this month's journal. The intelligence it affords is highly important.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Accounts from Canton so late as the 2d October, were received at Singapore by the *Francis Warden*. The commercial reports were rather unfavourable, particularly as regards opium; the price of which had declined to 1:100 dollars per chest for Patna, and 930 for Malwa. The demand at the same time was very languid, and the stock in the market so great, that any rapid improvement in price could not be expected. In all descriptions of Straits produce a fall in price had been experienced, and from the numerous cargoes which have lately gone on, the market is likely to be overstocked.

The opium receiving ships still continue to lay at Lintin, and to conduct their illegal traffic without molestation; the Chinese being either unwilling or afraid to proceed to extremities in expelling them.

Spanish India.

MANILLA.

Advices from Manilla have been received through Batavia down to the 15th July. We regret to learn that the government of that country, so far from acting upon the liberal and enlightened principles which were expected from the new governor, appear to be resolved to ruin the trade of the country, by pursuing the same wretched policy which has lately been followed in Java, and which has occasioned so much injury to the prosperity of that island. We would have imagined that, with such an example before their eyes, the government of the Philippines would have acted more prudently. They have imposed very large additional duties upon particular descriptions of British manufactures, which will operate as an entire prohibition. The ostensible reason is, to protect the native Philippine manufacture of these articles; but this is known to be an absurdity, and the real object of the measure, is to get hold of a little money for immediate wants, as a quantity of these goods had just been imported by the American ship *Hercules* from London. In this, however, they would be disappointed, as the agents for that vessel had resorted to

to tranship the goods for Canton, rather than submit to the ruinous exaction.

In addition to this, it is said that the resolution of turning the Chinese out of the country has passed the Consulado, and that a petition to that effect, recommended by all the branches of the government, is to be sent to Spain for the sanction of the home government. Unmarried persons are to be allowed nine months to quit the country, and married persons eighteen months.—[*Sing. Chron. Sept. 28.*

Australia.

We have received files of Sydney papers to the middle of October; they contain no news of any moment. Governor Darling, with the advice of the legislative council, has published an act, appointing Port Macquarie, Moreton Bay, and Norfolk Island, penal settlements for the transportation of offenders convicted in New South Wales, and prohibiting vessels from touching at those places without license. Governor Darling has also issued regulations for the granting and sale of lands, amongst which we observe the following :

“ Land granted without purchase, to be held in free and common socage, the grantee paying a quit rent of five per cent. per annum on the value to be fixed by the commissioners.

“ The payment of the quit rent not to commence until the end of seven years after the grantee have been authorized to settle on the land. Within that period, however, the grantee must expend, in improvements on the land so granted, a sum equal to one-fourth of the value estimated by the commissioners, under the penalty of forfeiting the grant.

“ The quit rent to be redeemable at the option of the grantee, on payment into the colonial treasury of a sum equal to twenty years' purchase, provided such payment be made within twenty years after the date and execution of the grant.

“ Lands to be granted in square miles, in the proportion of one square mile, or 640 acres, for every £500 sterling of capital, which the applicant can immediately command, to the extent of four square miles, or 2,560 acres, which is the utmost purchase.”

The present capital of the colony is estimated, in one of the papers, on accurate data, at four millions; the public debt is £250,000; the imports are calculated to amount to the value of £850,000 per annum, which is said to be under the truth.

It is lamentable to find that the aboriginal inhabitants remain intractable, and commit (especially in the district of Hunter's River) great atrocities. It is equally lamentable to see the following treasures

recommended (in the *Australian* of September 9), to put a stop to this evil :— “ We shall never depart from our opinion, that the system of terror is the only one to be adopted towards them. Conciliation is of no use—at least it never yet has proved of use. Overseers and stockmen may have been to blame—they may now occasionally offend the tribes. Still there appears to be a dangerous spirit of molestation gaining ground among the native blacks; and we apprehend that vigorous and rigorous movements will prove most humane and most effective. Treat them as an open enemy, and let them have enough of red-coat-and-bullet fare. They are now spearing men, and spearing cattle, and spearing sheep, and plundering huts and houses, and farms, and we are to be amused with the crying stuff about conciliation, forbearance, humanity, and friendly alliance! Bribe them, if bribery will avail—be peaceable and friendly with them if possible; but shew them no weak side—don't let them conceive a notion that we are afraid of them, or that an officer is removed from a station because he kept them in awe. Make them alone for the murders they commit. For every man they murder hunt them down, and drop ten of them. They will soon find it their interest to be friendly. It will not be necessary then to coax them into amity and goodwill towards even the stray and lonely and distant settler, or hut keeper. This is our specific—try it. In six months we shall neither hear of murders on the one side, nor shootings on the other; and yet all will be peace—peace obtained with little bloodshed.” The government, we are happy to observe, act upon the conciliatory plan.

During the hot winds at Sydney, on Sept. 30, the thermometer was at 90° at mid-day.

COUNTY OF ST. VINCENT.

We receive the most flattering accounts of the discovery which has been made in the vicinity of Port Macquarie. The river has been explored, and much of the country through which it flows. The country, it is represented by Captain Wright and others, is of a superior description, and promises to merit the attention of cultivators. It is expected that tropical productions must succeed here, and that, in a few years this portion of the colony will open new sources of wealth, and give a new direction to industry. The mouth of the river is thirty-five miles to the northward of Port Macquarie, and empties itself into the sea in Trial Bay. It has been ascertained that there are fourteen feet of water over the bar at the entrance. We shall probably be enabled shortly to add to the details which we have already made public.—*Australian, Oct. 11.*

NEW RIVER.

A large tract of land has been lately christened; and to the number of countries already known by name, we have to add the county of St. Vincent. The colonial secretary is godfather of this division of the colony. St. Vincent is situate to the southward of the county of Argyle,

and probably encompasses a portion of the county supposed to form a part of Argyle. Some people speak highly of the land; and many of the new order of grantees have selected their grants within it. Assistant surveyors have for some time been busily employed in this county.—*Ibid.*

Postscript to Asiatic Intelligence.

Owing to the long period which has elapsed since we received regular and connected accounts from the late scene of hostilities, we are obliged to detail occurrences of a somewhat antiquated date.

Every account seems to confirm the report of the satisfaction evinced, if not felt, by the Burmese Court, at the lenity and good faith of the British. The king is said to have punished some of those counsellors who persuaded him to violate the treaty. He has resumed his amusements in public, which were suspended during the war.

The second instalment appears to have been raised with difficulty, and not without great exactions upon the unfortunate subjects of his golden footed majesty. The last portions of the sum received at Rangoon (and which were rather reluctantly brought) are said to have come from the queen's treasury, the ingots bearing her stamp.

Mr. Crawford, envoy to, and resident at, the Burmese Court, left Rangoon for Amerapoora on the 1st September, as stated in our last, on board the *Diana* steam-boat. The following is said to be an accurate list of his suite:—

N. Wallich, esq., M.D., on botanical researches.—Lieut. Chester, 1st assistant to Envoy.—Lieut. J. Campbell, 2d ditto.—D. Stewart, esq., M.D., surgeon to the Envoy's establishment.—The officer commanding the escort.—Mr. J. Ellend, 1st assistant in the office of the Envoy.—Mr. P. D. Strong, 2d ditto.—Mr. Gomes, 1st assistant to Dr. Wallich.—Mr. Furie, 2d ditto.—Escort—29 Europeans, rank and file, and 19 natives, rank and file.

The party reached Henzada (about half way between Rangoon and Prome) on the 8th, where Mr. Crawford visited the Woonghee Maong Kiang, the intended governor of Rangoon and viceroy of Pegu, being invested with authority over the whole tract from Pagagan to the sea. The Woonghee returned the visit on the following day, coming in a war-boat, attended by fifteen others, and a number of small boats conveying a retinue of four or five hundred persons: he was received on board the *Diana* with military honours,

and remained on board two hours. He is described as a man of prepossessing appearance, of mild and conciliatory manners, and bearing a high public character. He is said to have evinced some anxiety to dissuade the Envoy from proceeding to Ava, upon the ground of his being possessed of powers to discuss any questions that might arise, and a reference to the court being therefore unnecessary. On finding, however, that a strict adherence to the terms of the treaty was insisted on, he withdrew his opposition, and cheerfully nominated the persons who were to accompany the mission. The steam-vessel got under weigh on the 10th, and the party expected to reach Prome in four days, and Ava in twenty. The voyage is described as uniformly agreeable, and the conduct of the Burmese authorities as particularly obliging and attentive.

By the accounts from Rangoon, it appears that, as soon as the channels which communicate between the Rangoon and Martaban rivers became open, many individuals quitted the former place for the purpose of settling in the British territory. Among those who were expected to transfer their residence to Amherst Town were Mr. Turner, ship-builder, and Mindanh, a Talain chief. The Syriam rajah, it was expected, would endeavour to maintain his independence: he displayed considerable gallantry against us in the late war, and carrying, it is said, 10,000 followers into the field.

The interruption which the war had occasioned to cultivation was beginning to be felt, and apprehensions of a scarcity of rice were general in August. Martaban and Tavoy were the only places from which any surplus supply was procurable; as far as to Ava. A bag of rice, or about two maunds, which formerly sold at Rangoon for about four or five rupees, was selling, at the period mentioned, for fourteen.

These gloomy prospects seem to have given birth to some alarming reports which were published in the *Harkara* Calcutta paper, in which it was stated that provisions were extremely scarce at Rangoon; that the population was starving; and that the Chinese, taking advantage of the distress, were selling rice at twenty rupees a bag,

bag, or about sevenpence halfpenny per pound.

The same paper contained intelligence of some commotions in Pegu, which appears to have rested on better grounds. A Martaban chief, named Udinah, had collected a large force, with which it was thought he intended to assert the independence of Pegu, as soon as the British departed. As this chieftain, who is the ex-rajah of Martaban, evinced no hostile feeling towards the British, but, on the contrary, has displayed much courtesy in his intercourse with Sir A. Campbell, the latter has not deemed it necessary to interfere in the dispute. The ex-rajah has been instrumental in preserving the lives of the crew of a coasting vessel of Coringa, wrecked on the Martaban shore; he treated them with great humanity, and conveyed them to Rangoon.

By later intelligence from Rangoon, dated 28th September, it appeared that the utmost cordiality subsisted between the British and Burmese authorities, and that it had suffered no interruption. The latter express no anxiety for the departure of our troops.—The rice crop, which is reaped in October, was expected to obviate all fears of a scarcity, though rice was then from twelve to thirteen rupees a bag. As the stipulated payment had been made by the Burmese, according to treaty, nothing need to detain the British troops later than the end of the rains at the beginning of November, and there is every reason, the letters state, to think that the parting will be friendly. Many of the people of Rangoon were preparing to remove, upon the place being evacuated by our troops.

According to the statement in the *Hurkaru* before referred to, the newly-created Burmese governor of Bassein had violated that article of the compact which expressly provided for the security of those who had been under the protection of the British during the war, and secured to them a right of quitting the place when they pleased; he issued orders to prohibit their leaving his district, and those who had evinced a friendly disposition towards our troops, naturally sought protection from the British authorities on this restraint. Conferences were held at Rangoon on this subject, and after much wordy war, and, it is said, insolence on the part of the Burmans, the people were permitted to depart unmolested; twelve boats had arrived at Rangoon from the interior crowded with those poor people, glad to escape from the oppression they were threatened with. It was further demanded, that the governor should be superseded; this was complied with also; but it is added, the last governor, who was favourable to the British, was very speedily degraded, for some alleged of-

fence, put in irons, his property confiscated, and that of all his adherents.

Some sensation has been created at Calcutta by the prospect that Amherst Town, the new British settlement in the province of Martaban, was to be abandoned on account of the insalubrity of the situation; although it was fully expected that, upon clearing away the jungle, in which operation the pioneers and troops were actively employed, the situation would prove a healthy one. Sir Archibald Campbell has surveyed the country east and west of the Sanluen, or river of Martaban, the chief object of which was to fix upon an eligible site for a military cantonment. He has fixed upon Moulmein, on the left bank of the river, nearly opposite to the town of Martaban, and twenty-five miles from Amherst. This circumstance seems to authorise the report respecting the abandonment of the latter settlement, at least, as a temporary measure. The addition to the report (which is made in the *Hurkaru* of October 18th) namely, that the site of the new cantonment is upon a river not navigable, appears to be incorrect.

Moulmein (says the *Government Gazette*) is the site of an ancient encampment, fortified after the manner of the earliest ages, in a deep morass, circumvallated by a high mound of earth, which in its contrivance formed a deep and broad ditch, masked by large forest trees, which would require the time and labour of thousands to clear away. Its position, opposite to the principal Burman town in that quarter, upon the bank of a broad and rapid stream, joined by two others, the Gain and Ataran, within sight of the station, enable it to command the course of the river-frontier, and repel with ease any attempt to trespass upon our boundary; a detachment on the N.E. end of the island of Pulyoon, which may be required for the protection of that fertile tract, will be almost within sight also of Moulmein, and will be, consequently, susceptible at any time of effective support.

The salubrity of the spot is also highly probable. The banks are high, rising by a gradual, but decided ascent, to an elevation of two hundred feet from the bed of a stream, the rapidity of whose course does not admit of any muddy alluvial deposits. It is open to the sea breeze through its whole front, whilst inland, extensive plains, free from jungle, separate it from the mountains. The soil is black mould on a stratum of gravel: the jungle now, in the immediate vicinity, is low, and may easily be cleared away, and there is an abundant supply of good water. The healthiness of this part of the country is corroborated by native testimony, and by actual experience, as of two detachments of Madras native infantry, one hundred

hundred each, stationed at Martaban and Pulygoon, neither sent more than two men to hospital from May to September.

The island of Pulygoon, and the banks of the Gain and Ataran rivers, produce abundant crops of rice. Teak of a superior quality is plentiful in the vicinity, and the surrounding districts, particularly in the mountainous parts, are said to be rich in mineral products.

The troops at Akyah, at Sandoway and Ramree, are represented to be healthy; the corps which occupied Amherst island (the 67th) had been ordered to Ramree as a more salubrious spot. In consequence of the drains made by the pioneers at Akyah, it is possible to walk out after the heaviest fall of rain.

The late war seems to have produced the usual consequence in semi-civilized countries—it has filled the Burmese provinces with marauding bands. A quantity of treasure sent from Martaban to Henzada, by Udinah, was attempted three different times; and it was only by severe fighting that the party escorting it succeeded in conveying it to its place of destination.

A failure, to some extent has taken place at Calcutta—the native house of Mercer and Co. According to a respectable London Journal (*The Times*), the outstanding debts of this firm are said to amount to fifty lacs of rupees, or more than half a million sterling, of which sum nearly the moiety is claimed by one house, which is covered by a warrant of judgment

and various securities; so that a very small dividend will remain for the other creditors. The connexions of the house are chiefly in India.

Accounts from Batavia to the 4th Nov. represent affairs there to be rather more favourable for the Dutch than they had been. The insurgents continue to resist; but the Netherlands troops, strengthened by some newly-arrived reinforcements, were successful, and were preparing for more decisive operations.

Accounts from St. Petersburg state that some differences of opinion have arisen between General Yermoloff and General Paskowitsch, who commands the Russian corps in Georgia. They do not agree, it appears, about the employment of the troops under their command, and the operations to be undertaken against the Persians. The mission of General Baron Von Diebitsch, who has set out from St. Petersburg for Georgia, with instructions from the Emperor, is for the purpose of reconciling these differences, and of taking measures on the spot for the vigorous prosecution of the war.

Mauritius Gazette have been received to the 17th December. They contain an ordinance regulating the situation of the slaves, and establishing a fixed penal clause for the weight of their chains and fetters, which the inhabitants are authorized by law to cause them to wear.

INDIAN SECURITIES AND EXCHANGES.

Calcutta, Oct. 26, 1826.

Government Securities.

Buy.] Rs. As.	Rs. As. [Sell
Prem. 27 0 Remittable Loan 0 per ct. 26 0 Prem.	
Disc. 0 8 Five per ct. Loan 1 0 Disc.	
Par. 0 0 New 5 per cent. Loan 0 4 Disc.	

Rates of Exchange.

On London, 6 months' sight,—to buy 1s. 11d. to 1s. 11½d.—to sell 2s. to 2s. 1d. per Sicca Rupee.
On Madras, 30 days ditto, 98 to 96 Sicca Rupees per 100 Madras Rupees.
On Bombay, ditto, 98 Sicca Rupees per 100 Bombay Rupees.

Bank Shares.—Prem. 5,200 to 5,400.

Madras, Oct. 11, 1826.

Government Securities.

Six per cent. Bengal Remittable Loan.

At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 350	
Madras Rs., per 335 Sa. Rs. 28½ Prem.	
At a Rate prevailing among Merchants	

and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 106½ Madras Rs., per

100 Sa. Rs. 26½ Prem.

Five per cent. Bengal Unremittable Loan.

At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 350
Madras Rs., per 335 Sa. Rs. 1 Prem

At the Rate prevailing among Merchants and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 106½ Madras Rs., per
100 Sa. Rs. 21 Disc.

Bombay, Oct. 7, 1826.

A Five per cent. Loan open.

Exchange.

On London, at 6 months' sight, 1s. 9d. per Rupee.
On Calcutta, at 90 days' sight, 108 Bom. Rs. per 100 Sicca Rupees.
On Madras, at 90 days' sight, 98 Bom. Rs. per 100 Madras Rs.

DEBATE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

East-India House, March 14, 1827.

A Special General Court of Proprietors of East-India Stock was this day held at the Company's house in Leadenhall-street.

The minutes of the last Court having been read,

Col. L. Stanhope wished to be allowed to correct an error that had appeared in one of the public prints,* in a report of what he had said at the last Court. Instead of stating, as he had done, that there was "no public" in India, he was made to say, that there were "no public defences" in that country. Having gone through a great part of India, he could not be so ignorant as not to know that there was an abundance of natural and artificial defences: almost every village afforded one. What he had said was, that there was no public, no community, in fact, no rights, no liberties in India.

THANKS TO CAMPBELL MARJORIBANKS, ESQ.

Gen. Thornton gave notice that he would, at the Court to be held on Wednesday next, move a resolution of thanks to the late Chairman, C. Marjoribanks, Esq., for the ability and urbanity with which he had discharged the duties of that situation.

INDIAN SUTTEES.

Mr. Poynder said, as he intended, at the ensuing Court, to address the proprietors on the subject of the immolation of Hindoo widows, he was anxious that a document of great importance—namely, a statement sent in to the Court of Directors, by Mr. Hudleston, before he quitted the direction—on this interesting subject, should be laid before this Court. He should, therefore, make that motion.

The Chairman (Sir G. A. Robinson).—"I consider it most essential for the despatch of the business of this Court, that we should go on regularly with our duties; and I must declare my opinion, that it is extremely irregular to entertain any motion for papers till we have concluded the business we have been assembled to consider."

Dr. Gilchrist was perfectly certain that the Court would, on this occasion, hear what he had to say. He wished to know by what by-law, or act of Parliament, it was provided, that the proprietors should not be allowed to ask a few previous questions of the hon. Chairman, as was customary in the House of Commons and other deliberative assemblies? If there were an act of Parliament, or a by-law, or even immemorial usage, he would bow

to it; but if it were merely the *ipse dixit* of the Chairman, originating with himself he thought it was high time to put an end to it. The annual election in April was fast approaching, and on that subject he meant to ask some questions, as well as to state all that he meant to do himself.

Mr. Weeding rose to order. He thought that the Chairman of that Court was the best judge of what was in and what was out of order. In his opinion, the hon. Chairman had a right to call those to order who prevented the proprietors from proceeding with the regular business of the Court.

BOMBAY MARINE.

The Chairman.—"I have now to acquaint the Court that it has been specially summoned in consequence of a requisition, signed by nine proprietors, which shall now be read."

The requisition was then read as follows:—

"To the Hon. the Court of Directors of the East-India Company.

"Hon. Sirs:—We, the undersigned Proprietors of India Stock, being duly qualified, request you will convene a General Court of Proprietors, for the purpose of considering the following proposition: To inquire whether, in the present state of the Hon. Company's Empire in the East, the condition of the naval force called the Bombay Marine is such as the welfare of the country and the interests of the Hon. Company demand.

"We are, Hon. Sirs,

"Your most obedient humble servants,

"JOSEPH HUME, "W. MAXFIELD,
"JAMES PATERSON, "J. B. GILCHRIST,
"JOHN ADDINELL, "W. MASON,
"LEIC. STANHOPE, "JOHN LEDGER."
"WM. THORNTON,
"Feb. 22, 1827."

Dr. Gilchrist.—"As the gallant General (Thornton) has been allowed to give notice of a motion for the next Court, I hope that I shall be equally indulged, and that you will permit me to read a motion which I intend to propose on Wednesday next."

The Chairman.—"The requisition stating the subject which we are convened to discuss is now read, and therefore the hon. proprietor cannot proceed. If the hon. proprietor chooses, after the business of the day is over, to give notice of a motion, he may do so."

Dr. Gilchrist.—"I speak now to save time."

The *Chairman*.—"I desire that the regular business of the Court may go on."

Capt. *Maxfield* wished, before he proceeded with the business which he had taken in hand, to call the attention of the Court to an anonymous letter which he had recently received. As this was the second letter of the kind with which he had been favoured, and as he had no opportunity of answering it elsewhere, he felt it necessary to take this course. As the letter was short, he would read it. It ran thus:—

"Sir;—If you persist in the course you are now pursuing at the India House, you will soon have cause to repent it; the following the example of Mr. Hume may involve you in difficulties to which he is not exposed."

"It is said you pique yourself on being a good shot; but be not too confident; it will not be sufficient to serve you; and you had better reflect in time, before it is too late, and take the warning of

"AN ANTI-MEDDLER."

"London, March 7, 1827."

On that letter he would only observe, that, in the whole course of his life, he had never met with, or known any man, of whom he could form an opinion so utterly contemptible as to believe him the author of it; and the individual who wrote it could know very little of him, if he supposed that such silly threats could deter him from performing his duty. Having said thus much, he should now proceed to the order of the day. He had asserted, some time since, in that court, that the Bombay Marine corps was neglected, degraded, and persecuted; and an hon. proprietor (Mr. Hume) then remarked, that if such were the case, it would be better to bring the subject specifically under consideration; and he offered to second a motion to that effect. He (Capt. Maxfield) pledged himself to introduce it, and that pledge he was now prepared to redeem. He wished sincerely, both from a regard for his own feelings—for the feelings of the officers of that friendly corps—as well as the credit of the Court of Directors—that this task were less easy; but were he to adduce the hundredth part of the evidence he might advert to, he should intrude too much on the time of the Court. He begged, however, to in-treat their attention to a few leading facts, which would be sufficient for his purpose; and he begged the Court to remember that the corps in question was the military marine of the Company, recognized by act of Parliament, and essentially requisite to the interests of the empire entrusted to their management. He would endeavour, as much as possible, to command his feelings on this occasion, and to perform the task he had undertaken as if he had never belonged to the corps in question;

he would, as far as it was possible, even forget that he had served the Company faithfully, zealously, and devotedly, in that corps, for a period of twenty-four years; during which he had obtained the recorded approbation of their government on more than ten occasions; but the liberal consideration, urbanity, and friendly sympathy of some of the members of the Court of Directors would remain fresh in his recollection while "memory retained her seat," or until virtue, ability and worth should no longer possess any attraction. Were he to say that, since the order of the Court of Directors, in 1798, they were obnoxious to the charge of neglect, with respect to this corps, he should be borne out by evidence; but, in order to save time, he should commence with a few extracts from a letter of Mr. Money, superintendent of the marine to the Bombay government, in answer to some sweeping censures passed on that unprotected corps in the letter of the Court of Directors of the 8th of April 1806. They were to be found on the records of the Court; and, unless something had been done to remedy the evils which Mr. Money complained of, and brought to the notice of the Directors in 1807, or twenty years ago, then he must contend that the charge of neglect was fully proved. In the ninth paragraph of that letter Mr. Money said, "Permit me, on a subject so materially interesting to the department committed to my trust, to state, with all respectful deference to the opinion of the hon. Court, what I conceive to be the causes of every defect and deficiency in the marine character and institution. The want of a code of laws enacted by legislative authority has been and continues to be the prominent defect of the marine establishment. Such a code would raise it from that state of degradation, to which illegitimate character is too frequently exposed, by the contemptuous opinion of mankind; it would infuse into its feeble system (sustained with much vexation and with little credit) those energies which all other military corps possess, and which lead them to distinction and renown. It is only necessary, I humbly conceive, to refer to a description of the duties expected from the marine, as given by the Hon. Court in their public letter under date of August 1st, 1798, to render it manifest, without a waste of argument, that a corps having such services to perform should be vested with legal authority, and its discipline upheld by the power of a legal tribunal. The Hon. Court, in the second paragraph of the letter referred to, have stated the following to be the objects of the establishment of their marine force: 1st. To protect the trade from port to port. 2d. To defend the Company's trade and possessions. 3d. To transport troops, &c. 4th. To make nautical discoveries. 5th. To convey

convoy packets. It must be very evident, upon the most superficial review of these duties, that their effect and creditable execution depend upon professional knowledge, public zeal, and strict discipline and subordination.

"The next principal defect in the marine establishment results, in my humble judgment (continues Mr. Money), from the low estate to which the officers' comparative rank is reduced. By the old regulations of the Hon. Company, yet unrepealed, the commanders of their regular ships from Europe take their rank between a captain and a major in the army. By the order of the Hon. Court already referred to, it was directed that, in order to preserve due respect and attention to the officers of the marine, who on important occasions are associated with the military, correspondent rank should be assigned as follows:—The commodore to rank with a colonel in the army; captains of ships of twenty-eight guns and upwards, or senior captains, with lieutenant-colonels; junior captains with majors; first-lieutenants with captains, &c. This distinction, supported by a code of martial law, would have given to the marine corps all the vigour and spirit which it could be rendered capable of possessing; but by subsequent resolutions the corresponding rank was virtually abolished, and the code of laws which the supreme government so strongly recommended, and which the Hon. Court declared, upon a conviction of its necessity, that it was their intention to procure, has never been obtained. On the 22d of May 1804, the Hon. Court were pleased to direct, that the commanders of their regular ships, whose corresponding rank with the military rested between that of a major and a captain, should precede all the captains of the marine, having the comparative rank of lieutenant-colonels of the army. I should be one of the last to impugn any resolution tending to honour a service in which I passed a great portion of my life, and to which, from connexions and friendships, I may be supposed to be naturally attached; but were I now belonging to that service, I feel persuaded that my sentiments of justice would be the same; while I am satisfied, from the principle of discipline imbibed in the course of many years' service in the navy, my sense of public expediency would concur with those sentiments of justice, and, in the situation which I hold, the expression of these opinions appears to me an act of indispensable duty. Whatever of respect and attention the orders of 1798 were calculated to produce, has been completely extinguished by the regulations of comparative rank of 1804. By them, an officer who has served the Hon. Company in a profession strictly confined to arms, and from which the advantages of trade of any

description are rigidly excluded,—who has arrived at a rank corresponding with that of a lieutenant-colonel in the army, which he has held for a period of fourteen or fifteen years—finds himself compelled to yield precedence to the commander of a regular ship, ~~rank~~ sitting below a major in the army, who perhaps has not been ten years at sea, who but a short time before may have been (and I believe it has been the case) a mate of a ship at this very port—and whose ship at present the captain of the marine may be destined to convoy. These circumstances, combined with the want of a code of laws, precludes the mind from aspiring to a respectable rank in society—they tend to depress every feeling of laudable ambition, and blight, by their natural operation on the character of men, all that *esprit du corps*, which it is so much to the public advantage to encourage and cherish, and which has led to the aggrandizement of all other military services." Mr. Money's letter then entered into a comparative statement of the pay and pension of the marine with the Company's army, at once creditable to its amiable writer, and illustrative of the neglected and depressed state of the marine. But he (Capt. Maxfield), knowing that mere pay was not all to which an officer attached value, did not think it necessary to quote it farther. Perhaps it would be said, that the Court of Directors were anxious to obtain a code of laws for the government of the marine, but that they wanted power to effect that object. He was willing, in charity, to suppose that such was the case; but then came the question, if they were really disposed to render the marine efficient and respectable, why they had avoided doing that which was unquestionably in their power? Did they frame any regulations for its better management? Did they issue any orders to construct vessels adapted to accommodate the unfortunate crews that were crammed into them? Did they repeal or explain their inconsistent orders of 1804? or did they adopt any measures whatever to remedy the palpable evils pointed out in the superintendent's letter? No! that manly and feeling letter had no other effect than to reduce his influence at the India House, and he soon after retired from his office in disgust.—(*Hear!*) The Court of Directors immediately appointed another superintendent, in no way resembling his predecessor—and from that hour their marine had met with continued degradation and persecution.—(*Hear!*) The retirement of Mr. Money from the office of superintendent was at once a source of regret to the marine corps, and of serious injury to the public interests. His talents were of the most useful description, and he possessed an activity of body, and an energy of mind, which afforded him no leisure.

hour of his time was devoted to the public service. He understood business of every description, and he executed it admirably. He infused a portion of his own spirit, energy, and pride, into the breasts of those employed under his authority. Whenever he found worth and ability, he confided in it. He had no illiberal prejudices to gratify—and the surest recommendations to his favour and countenance, were zeal, activity, and integrity.—(Hear!) Envy might revile, and self-interest seek to blacken his character; but his fairly-earned fame, as a public servant, would survive every effort to blast it, in spite of all the attacks of low and little minds. The undiminished attachment which the marine corps shewed to him, after his retirement, testified their just sense of his great virtue and worth—while their honest affection was honourable to their grateful feelings. Mr. Money's successor he had never seen: and, being employed under the supreme government, with him he had nothing to do; he, therefore, could not feel any personal dislike to that individual. If he had harboured such a sentiment, it must have, ere this, subsided, for the gentleman to whom he alluded had gone before that tribunal from which there was no appeal, and to which they must all be finally summoned. He should, however, be compelled to advert to him; but he would do so with the utmost tenderness, and rather "extenuate, than set down aught in malice." The pay of their marine officers did not admit of a comparison with the other branches of the Company's service. The pay and allowance of a marine captain was only 360 rupees per month, while that of a branch pilot at Calcutta was 700 rupees per month, or 850, when sent beyond the Sand-heads. But even this pittance was not secured to the captains of the Company's marine; for by the orders of the Marine Board at Calcutta, of March 30, 1814, the captains of the marine were rendered accountable for all advances made to any of the crew on the Company's account, and the loss sustained by desertion was deducted from the pay of the captains. A rule so illiberal was not applied to any other branch of their service—nor was it to be found in any other service whatever. Every liberal-minded man must suppose that the officers of the Bombay marine were governed by some specified rule. That however was not the case; and, therefore, he entreated the attention of the Court to a few facts which would enable gentlemen to arrive at just conclusions. Early in April 1818, a commander and all the officers of one of the cruisers were placed under arrest, on charges framed by Mr. Meriton, the then superintendent of marine. The usual forms of trial having been gone through, the proceedings were sent to go-

vernment on the 8th of that month. As they were not considered satisfactory, the court were ordered to re-assemble, and to put certain questions, which was accordingly done; and the proceedings in the second instance were also forwarded to government. From that time, until the 28th of November, the prisoners were kept in suspense; when they were again called before the court. By the court they were informed that the government had directed certain questions to be put to them, to which they were expected to give implicit answers. The commander begged to know whether he stood before the court as a prisoner. This plain question the court could not answer, but merely repeated the purpose for which they were assembled. The commander stated his readiness to answer any question which the government might think proper to put to him, after they had given their final decision on his case, but declared that he would give no answer while he appeared before the Court as a prisoner. The proceedings were then closed a third time, and sent to government, by whom a final decision was given some time after, and, notwithstanding the punishment which he had previously suffered, the commander was farther suspended until some time in 1819. Now, it was hardly possible to conceive that any public authority could have resorted to such capricious measures; which were as repugnant to every species of judicial proceeding, as they were opposed to every liberal and honourable feeling. But, the sweeping measure of placing commanders, lieutenants, and midshipmen, all under arrest together, could only be borne out and countenanced by the government's exhibiting a total disregard, not only for the substance, but the shadow of justice. Having said so much for the practice of marine courts, he would next advert to their composition. As the facts which he was about to state were to be found on the Company's records, he took it for granted that they would not be denied. Lieut. Boyce, of the *Mercury*, was, in 1812, put under arrest by his commander, Lieut. Blost. The superintendent assembled a court in order to try him, on which he placed two of the officers of Indianmen as members. Lieut. Boyce, be it remembered, held a commission—but these two gentlemen held no commission, and belonged to a merchant ship; they could not, therefore, be expected, from their habits, and the different duties they had to execute, to be proper judges. The degradation and insult offered in this instance, to the marine officers, were evident and studied, because there was no want of marine officers to form a proper Court. In such a forlorn and undefined state had the marine service been left, that if an assemblage of boatswains or gunners,

or even serjeants and corporals, had been selected by the superintendent for the purpose of forming a court, the marine officers were without a remedy. Now, although the Court of Directors continued sending out young men as officers for the marine service, and there was only one ship in the service large enough to carry the guns put on board her, or to afford ordinary accommodation for her crew, or to be held in the least respect by the privates in the Persian Gulf, yet that solitary ship the superintendent induced the government to sell, and she was sold by auction for two-thirds of her probable value. This threw an old officer out of employ, and blasted the prospects and hopes of every officer in the marine, as it caused the suspension of all promotion by the overplus of officers thus created. The superintendent, to find room for the young gentlemen which the Court continued to send out, not having vessels to put them in, placed some of them under the fostering care of an invalid gunner at Mayagon, a place notorious for nauch houses and prostitutes. At such a seminary, was it possible any person could believe the minds and manners of such young men could take a proper bent? Could the superintendent mean that they should make good officers? He was no more; and he (Capt. M.) would abstain from comment. Were he but to paint the sad consequences which must result to those young men, he should be lacerating the feelings of their parents and friends, and inflicting pain where every pleasing hope and fond delusion had been fostered. The guardian, father, or friend, would have to lament that, after every expense had been incurred to cultivate the mind, and inspire youth with sentiments of honour and virtue, the fruits of such affection and pains were thus nipped in the bud, while patronage affected to bestow a blessing. The ship he had alluded to as sold was the *Mornington*, which was in fact only a twenty-gun ship. When she was got rid of, the largest vessel remaining was the *Teignmouth*, of 250 tons; which, in His Majesty's service, would have had only ten or twelve guns; but she was absurdly crammed with eighteen guns, and at one time twenty. It was as injudicious as cruel so to equip her, as it rendered her unsafe, and in the event of capture ensured the disgrace of whoever commanded her. The rest of the vessels were of the same stowage, except that they were much smaller; and one, the *Oriel*, a brig of 180 tons, carrying twelve guns, was so crank that she overset and sank in a squall in the Persian Gulf, although her fore-sail only was set, and of her crew only three men were saved. These were facts which could not be denied, and which the records of that house fully established. In October

1814, the *Vestal* being under orders to carry despatches to Bussorah, her commander, Lieut. Phillips, was directed to receive on board (by the orders of the superintendent) a certain number of bales belonging to private merchants at Bombay on freight. That officer represented the utter incompetency of his vessel to carry any cargo, and it was with difficulty he could stow his provisions and water for the crew. His objection was overruled, and the bales sent on board; which he (sooner than deprive the crew of their wretched accommodation) stowed in his own cabin. By the orders of 1798, all freight except bullion was prohibited to be carried in the Company's cruisers; but this disregard of orders by the superintendent brought into the Bombay treasury the pitiful sum of 160 rupees. The *Vestal* was a small sharp brig, 160 tons burthen, mounting fourteen guns, and scarcely able to carry ten weeks' provisions and water; and, as the superintendent long commanded one of their large India-men, he could not plead ignorance of the utter inability of the *Vestal* to carry any cargo whatever, and his motives therefore could not be mistaken. What was the consequence? not mere discomfort to the unfortunate commander but death. The *Vestal's* cabin was very small, and had neither port nor scuttle. The Persian Gulf, they knew, was dreadfully unhealthy. Such stowage induced a liver complaint, and an officer of distinguished merit, who had served for nearly twenty years, fell a victim—not to the cause of his country, but to injustice and cruelty. Now it was well known, to all who heard him, that in every kind of ship or vessel, from the privateer to the collier, some difference of accommodation was allotted to the persons serving on board; but the superintendent, to give a death-blow to the service, thought to confound all ranks; he therefore ordered that the berth allotted to the midshipmen of the *Vestal* should be taken away, and the midshipmen put into the lieutenant's cabin. Now the lieutenant's cabin on board the *Vestal* was only nine feet by seven feet, and as there was no other, the surgeon was necessarily obliged to live and sleep in it also. Such was the wretched den into which the superintendent ordered the midshipmen to be crammed also, putting health and comfort out of the question. Their marine officers had no remedy; and if the pigs had been ordered to be put there also, they must have submitted or resigned the service. It happened, however, that the surgeon belonged to the army, and was protected by its rules and regulations from such abominable injustice; and he wrote to government, complaining that the accommodation allotted to him in the *Vestal* was worse than that provided by act of Parliament.

Parliament for slaves during the slave trade. The superintendent took fire at the reflection, and preferred charges against him; but, as a military officer could not be punished without sufficient grounds, a court-martial saved him; and very properly remarked on the conduct and evidence of the superintendent. If he were living, he (Capt. M.) would adduce it with such comments as it merited. The directors, could, however, find it on their records; and if they really wished to appreciate the superintendent's labours, they would inquire for it. This conduct, however, obtained approbation and support, and he continued in office as long as he pleased; and if he had lived, he might probably have received a pension in reward of such services. The directors could not plead ignorance of the facts he had related, unless they were guilty of neglecting to read the papers sent to this country. But, supposing that in the multiplicity of business and the incessant application to foster private claims, no time was found to attend to their insignificant marine, still the executive body could not deny that they were almost knee-deep in marine memorials, not one of which they ever condescended to answer, or probably even to consider. He could adduce more powerful and complete evidence, but from tenderness he would refrain, for the present, and reserve it for another time and another place. He was really tired of portraying such a disgusting picture. He held the public correspondence in his hand, and abstained from reading it only to save time; it was, however, on their records, and could not be denied. It might be supposed, by some utterly ignorant of the merits or claims of the Bombay marine, that it deserved such treatment, or that it had forfeited all claim to attention; it was therefore with reluctance that he was compelled to advert to its conduct as a public body, of which he was probably one of the least worthy members. First, then, on the score of fidelity and attachment to their country, the marine were eminently conspicuous; and it could not be denied, that when the Company's army, with arms in their hands, urged their claims to equal rank with his Majesty's troops, and invited the marine to follow their example and join them, the latter declined so doing. The army obtained the most liberal consideration; while the marine was unnoticed. He had heard it said, that the marine deserved to be so treated, for not joining the army. If so, it would serve as a lesson in future to regulate the claims of military bodies, and teach the just value of demands unaided by power. Now, for patriotism. In 1799, a subscription was set on foot towards carrying on the war, as a test of public opinion. It was liberally sup-

ported in this country, and was also effectively carried on in India. Most of their servants, civil, military, and marine, subscribed towards it; but Captain Sulby, of the Bombay marine, subscribed the whole of his pay during the war. He stood a solitary example of such devotion in the Company's service; and continuing to serve, he sacrificed his life in their employ. He would not tire them with a detail of the numerous instances of gallantry and devotion, which he could adduce of your marine officers, under such evident disadvantages and discouragement; suffice it to say the repeated testimonies of his Majesty's officers in favour of their good conduct, afforded some consolation to their wounded feelings; and the existence of those testimonies on the Company's records could not be denied. No corps in their service had ever evinced a stronger desire to expel from it every worthless member; and, in almost every instance that such effort was made, the Court of Directors as if with a determination to defeat them, either restored such persons to the service, or placed them on the same pension as the most meritorious officers. He would now assert, without fear of its being denied, what might be justly deemed a proud proof of devotion by any military body in the world. In no one solitary instance had the British colours ever been lowered from the peak of one of their miserably ill-manned cruisers, to any enemy of inferior, or even of equal force, while they had often proved successful when combating a powerful superiority.—(*Hear, hear!*) But, supposing military ardour and patriotism of no value in the estimation of the Company as regarded their marine, he would address them simply as merchants, and ask if disinterestedness, on the part of their marine officers, in preferring the Company's interests to their own, could establish any claim? When the expedition was proceeding against Java, two of their cruisers, the *Mornington* and *Malabar*, fell in with two large China junks in the straits of Gaspar from Batavia, bound to Amoy. By the orders of council, Batavia being in a state of blockade, they were good prizes, and were in fact laden with Dutch property, valued at £600,000 sterling. They were taken by the cruisers in question, and Captains Deane and Maxfield would have sent them to Prince of Wales's Island for condemnation, but were prevented by Commodore Hayes, who commanded the Company's naval forces on that expedition. His orders were short, and in justice to him he would read them.

"*Hon. Company's Ship of War Malabar at Sea, July 31, 1811, lat. 5° 41' S. long. 106° 46' E.*"

"*Gentlemen:* As the government of China seek every pretext to embarrass the
Hon.

Hon. Company's commercial transactions at Cauton, I am induced to believe the captured junks taken possession of by your respective ships, under your immediate command, may be made a plea to interrupt the important trade in that quarter, which is now not only considered of vital interest to them, but to the state generally, I feel myself imperiously called upon to prevent any occurrence which may be productive of such destructive effects; I am therefore impelled to direct you to withdraw the prize-masters and crews from the junks in question, and to command you to permit them to proceed towards their original destination. In thus exercising my authority, perhaps exceeding its legal bounds, I am not insensible of the great sacrifice which must be made by enforcing the foregoing commands: but I trust we alike feel we have the honour to serve the most liberal masters in the world; and I congratulate myself upon the conviction that the officers to whom these commands are addressed, know how to appreciate the acquisition of wealth when placed in competition with the interests of their employers and of their country.

"I am, Gentlemen,

"your faithful servant,

"(Signed) JOHN HAYES,

"Commodore of all the Hon. Company's ships and vessels, Java Expedition."

"To Captains R. Deane and W. Maxfield, commanding the Hon. Company's ships of war *Mornington* and *Malabar*."

Now the above order added: good illustration of the impolicy of the orders of the Court of Directors in 1804. Suppose for one moment that Commodore Hayes had not been present, but that one of their regular ships had been in company, it was not possible to believe that the commander of any of their regular ships would have presumed to issue such an order, and still less likely any captain of their marine would have attended to it if they had. The man who made such a sacrifice to promote their interests was not then worth one shilling, nor did he believe that he was at this moment. His disinterestedness and gallantry, of which their records possessed abundant proof, would, in any other service but their marine, have obtained for him honour and distinction. The two officers to whom the order to release the junks was addressed, submitted a memorial, which he believed shared the usual fate of marine memorials. As to the commodore, he was not aware that the Court of Directors ever condescended to remark upon his conduct on that occasion, unless it induced them to take a more feeling and liberal view of the question of precedence, when Lord Amherst was guilty of handing the wife

of that old and distinguished officer before the lady of one of their Bengal civil servants. But, if the feelings of the marine officers, their character and efficiency, were of no value in the Company's estimation, it was worth while to estimate its consequences by another test; let them therefore try it by pounds, shillings and pence. From what had been stated, he hoped it would not be pretended that the Bombay marine was efficient, or even available for any good purpose under such treatment since 1812; and if the contrary were asserted, he should readily meet and confute it. Now the expense of the corps from 1812 to 1826 might be taken at no less than £1,200,000. The decadence of the marine induced the growth of piracy in the Persian Gulph, which compelled government to equip expeditions against them, entailing an expense of upwards of one million sterling; now the interest alone of that sum, properly applied, would have provided in perpetuity an efficient naval force of double the nominal strength of the Bombay marine. In 1812, the presence of a single cruizer of twenty guns, although badly manned, prevented a war with the Burmese, and obtained ample reparation for an insult offered to the Company. At that time there was as good occasion for a war as since; but Lord Minto sent the *Malabar*, of twenty guns, with was lying at Calcutta, to support the arguments of the British Envoy at Rangoon. The Burmese government were then ripe for aggression, and the Viceroy received orders from Ummerapoora, which were published in the streets, to send the Envoy, as well as the commander of the cruizer, up to the capital in irons; and on the Envoy attempting to go off with his escort and followers to the *Malabar*, an attempt was made by two war boats (out of about twenty that were in motion round the cruizer) to seize one of the *Malabar's* cutters. The commander of the *Malabar* ordered the guns to be pointed at the latter and two war-boats, but not to fire, as the Envoy was still in the boats, and might be sacrificed. He at length reached the cruizer, and a message was instantly sent to the Viceroy complaining of the outrage, and demanding instant reparation by delivering up the commanders of the war-boats in irons, sending them on board the *Malabar*, and disavowing the act of aggression. He was allowed half an hour to consider of it, at the expiration of which, the *Malabar* would, in the event of refusal, attack the place. The consequence was, that the commanders of the war-boats were sent off hand-cuffed, and every possible atonement made for the outrage by the Viceroy. (Hear!) Now the want of a respectable cruizer at Bengal in 1823, previous to our rupture with the Burmese, compelled the

Bengal

Bengal government to equip and send a pilot schooner into the river Naaf, as a measure of naval defence; while its feeble and unwarlike appearance encouraged rather than repressed the aggression of the Burmese, who seized the commander and carried him off; and they augmented the grounds of a dispute, which precipitated us into a war that had entailed an expense of upwards of twenty millions sterling, and the loss of thousands of our brave and valuable troops. On their present superintendent of marine, Mr. Buchanan, he should offer but one remark: he had just given the commands of the *Hastings* frigate and the *Ernaad*, the largest ships in the service, to two mates of the country service, which was no less an act of injustice to the marine officers than of disregard for the Company's interest. As they had plenty of marine officers of all grades unemployed (who must, he supposed, be paid), why should the expenses of government be thus increased by employing persons not in their service, to any thing of the injury offered to the marine corps? Would the commander-in-chief at either of the presidencies give the command of one of their battalions, or even of a company of sepoy, to a mate of the country service, or even to a meritorious officer of the King's service? They well knew it would not be done; but their commanders-in-chief of the army were all King's officers, and were imbued with military feelings; and the credit and efficiency of the corps entrusted to their management were, in their estimation, no less objects of duty than of pride. Apologizing to the court for having so long occupied its attention, he now begged leave to move for a series of papers. The gallant officer then moved for a series of papers, sixteen in number, tending to bear out the different statements he had made. It appeared, he observed, to be a very long list; but, long as it seemed, the matter would not occupy more than two or three sheets of foolscap altogether.

Col. J. Stanhope rose to second the motion for the production of these papers. The hon. Chairman, at a former court, stated, in answer to some questions which were then put to him, that the Court of Directors were busily employed in considering the subject which his gallant friend had this day introduced; that they were occupied in endeavouring to redress those wrongs, and to correct that evil system, of which such just complaints had been made. He confessed that he did not at first deem this motion to be necessary, and he was rather annoyed when he saw his name affixed to the requisition; but he had since had a communication with his gallant friend, and from him he learned that this subject had been under consideration for the last three years, and that con-

stant promises had been made to ameliorate the condition of the Bombay marine, which promises had been as constantly broken. Now, for his own part, he believed it was the Chairman's intention to do that which he had pledged himself to perform; but as they were about to lose that hon. gentleman's able and active services in the chair, he thought that his gallant friend was right in bringing forward this motion, and therefore he should say one or two words in support of it. His gallant friend was no factious character—he was no disappointed individual, coming into that court for the purpose of opposing the conduct of the Court of Directors; no, he was one of their oldest and best officers, who had received the thanks of the Company nine or ten times in public orders. He here wished to mention a particular circumstance, with which his gallant friend was intimately connected. His gallant friend had mentioned the capture of two China junks, which had been given up in the most disinterested manner by Commodore Hayes. Now his gallant friend was present on that occasion, and he had, in consequence of the restoration of those vessels, lost a very considerable share of prize-money, the one-eighteenth or one-sixteenth of £600,000. With respect to the Bombay marine, they must be all aware that it was one of the oldest branches of the Company's service; it was, in fact, established at the time that the island of Bombay was given up to the Hon. Company; and, as his gallant friend had truly stated, never was there an instance of any ship belonging to the Bombay marine having lowered her flag to an enemy of equal force. Under these circumstances, he thought that their marine service ought to be a subject of interest to that court. He could not help lamenting what he conceived to be the indignity offered to this useful service. In the first place, he thought it was unfair to deprive the officers of that rank which they formerly held. By the regulation of 1798, a commodore of the Bombay marine ranked with a colonel in the army, and a senior captain with a lieutenant-colonel; while, by a subsequent regulation, that of 1804, the commander of one of the Company's regular ships, who ranked only between a major and a captain in the army, was allowed precedence before a captain in the marine force, whose rank was equivalent to that of a lieutenant-colonel. This led to a very ridiculous occurrence, to which his gallant friend had slightly alluded. It happened that Commodore Hayes and his wife dined with the Governor-General. The commodore having the rank of colonel, the Governor-General thought it proper to lead out Mrs. Hayes to dinner, conceiving that the precedence was due to her. This set the senior merchant's hearts

on fire, and they in consequence wrote long letters home to the Court of Directors. They pondered over this weighty matter; and at last they decided—on what? Was it to punish Lord Amherst, or that charming and amiable lady? No; but they came to the resolution of uncommodoring the commodore. (*Laughter.*) Now Mr. Wynn, who had been in the habit of considering questions of precedence, and who was nightly occupied in explaining them in the House of Commons, thought this was very unfair, and therefore he reversed their proceeding. This, however, was no laughable matter, when they considered that an indignity was offered to an old and meritorious officer, whose brow was covered with wounds and honours, and who had disinterestedly given up the one-eighteenth or one-sixteenth of £600,000. It was a very fair subject of complaint that there was no martial law for the government of the Bombay Marine. Did they ever before hear of a civilized society, especially a military society, without some species of law for its government. He always understood that, in the military profession, the law ought to be more strict and rigorous than elsewhere; and indeed certain gentlemen in the House of Commons told them, that there was something so perverse in the constitution of an Englishman which rendered it necessary that he should be flogged. Such a system, it appeared, was not usual in other parts of the world; but, it was asserted, that in England, Scotland, and Ireland it could not be dispensed with; still it formed a singular contrast with the Bombay Marine, in which there appeared to be no defined code of martial law. Sometimes it was governed by the rules and regulations of his Majesty's navy, and sometimes by the Company's regulations. Every thing was left in the most vague state; and, in point of fact, that service was not under the dominion of the law, but under the direction of arbitrary power. (*Hear!*) Would any of the gentlemen—any of the grey-headed gentlemen—on the other side of the bar, approve of such a want of system? They would say “no,” and declare that they were going to remedy the evil; but if it were suffered to continue for three years, could it be said that it did not amount to a denial of justice? (*Hear!*) He must ever view, as a gross act of injustice, the placing captains of the Bombay Marine under the commanders of Indiamen. He knew that the captains of the Bombay Marine were most distinguished men; perhaps they were the most scientific men ever employed in the naval service. (*Hear!*) And he conceived that it was really putting the cart before the horse, to place the captain of a ship of war under the command of the captain of

a merchantman. (*Hear!*) It was an absolute indignity to the service. (*Hear!*) And he thought his gallant friend was right in withdrawing his labours from a service which was so much degraded. Now he would tell the court what the reason of this degradation was. The fact was plainly this: the Bombay Marine was not represented on the other side of the bar; but the other service—the merchant service—was so represented; for he believed that no less than four directors had been captains of East-Indiamen. Those captains came constantly within the influence of the Court of Directors, but the captains in the marine service were quite removed beyond that influence. One great advantage enjoyed by the former class of individuals was, that they could go into port whenever they pleased, and sell their portions of the cargoes of the ships which they commanded to good account. Nothing could be worse than the course now pursued towards the Bombay marine; and therefore he trusted and confided in the statement made by the hon. Chairman, founded on his high character, and his strict notion of honour, that he would use his utmost efforts to fulfil what he had promised, and that, too, speedily; otherwise, the best thing that could, in his opinion, be done, would be to do away with the Bombay Marine entirely. Let the officers be properly rewarded; let the men, who had gallantly fought their battles, be pensioned, and then let the amount of the expense at present incurred be appropriated to the service of his Majesty's navy.

Sir J. Doyle said he did not intend, when he entered the court, to have said any thing on this subject; but there were two points, which, on considering it, must strike any man of ordinary understanding: the one was, that if the Company must have a marine, it ought to be kept in the best possible state; the other was, that as over every department in our large empire of India the Court of Directors had control, they ought also to have within themselves the power, in every respect, to regulate this branch of the service, and not to suffer it to be made the sport of caprice. This being premised, and it being understood that at this very moment the Court of Directors were doing the best they could to improve the condition of the marine, he conceived that it would not be wise to press this motion. (*Hear!*) Giving to the gallant officer the utmost credit for his zeal for this corps, as well as for the ability with which he introduced his statement, still he must say, that if the Court of Directors were, *bonâ fide*, endeavouring to get the best possible advice from the naval authorities of this country, for the purpose of carrying into effect the improvement and amelioration of the Bom-

bay Marine, there was no necessity for the interference of the general court. He therefore submitted to the gallant officer whether, under all the circumstances, it would not be more eligible, with a view to the accomplishment of his own object, to leave the business in the hands in which it was placed at present. (*Hear, hear !*)

The *Chairman* said, he had paid very great attention to the statement made by the gallant officer who had introduced the question to the court; he had also listened attentively to the observations of the gallant colonel by whom the proposition had been seconded, and he confessed, in the last place, that he was much gratified by the conciliatory suggestion which had fallen from the gallant general who had just spoken. The business having arrived at the present stage, he felt it to be his duty to offer a few remarks for the consideration of the proprietors. It would be recollected that he had stated on a former, and no very distant occasion, that the Court of Directors had been sedulously engaged (for a great length of time he admitted, even for years), in endeavouring to effect the improvement of the Bombay Marine; and that many difficulties had occurred in the progress of their efforts for that purpose—difficulties occasioned by the peculiarity of the naval service of this country, which entertained a kind of jealousy of any interference on naval subjects. (*Hear !*) It was that description of jealousy, however, to which, he was free to admit, that much of the respectability and consequence connected with that most important branch of the national service was owing (*hear !*), and which, as it had that effect, ought rather to be encouraged than repressed. (*Hear !*) He had the satisfaction to state, that so far as the negotiation of the Court of Directors had proceeded with the naval department of this country, they had every reason to be gratified with the disposition which was manifested to concur in the great object which the Company had in view, with respect to the improvement of the Bombay Marine. (*Hear, hear !*) and he should be doing injustice to the noble Lord at the head of the Admiralty if he did not state, that that noble individual had evinced as strenuous a desire to affect the object to which his attention had been called by the Court of Directors, as if he were personally interested in the result. (*Hear, hear !*) This being the case, he certainly did feel that it was extremely desirable that the Court of Proprietors should adopt the advice given by the gallant general; still however he could not give way to the expression of that wish in silence; he could not suffer the different subjects which had this day been introduced for discussion to pass altogether unnoticed. The leading object of the

gallant officer who had brought forward this proposition seemed to be, to cast reflexions (and very severe reflexions too) on the name of the late superintendent of the Bombay Marine. Now he did think that there was a peculiar degree of justice due to that brave officer after what had been said concerning him, in bringing to the recollection of the court the gallant service which first recommended him to the notice of the Court of Directors, and was the occasion of his being placed in that important charge (superintendent of the Bombay Marine), to which allusion had been made. It would be recollected by many members of the court, that Captain Meriton, in company with Captain Stewart and another of the Company's gallant commanders, had fought a severe action with a French force, in the course of which he was severely wounded. When the office of superintendent of the Bombay Marine became vacant, Captain Meriton became a candidate for that situation; and he (the *Chairman*) now declared, with great satisfaction, that he took the utmost pains at the time to bring Captain Meriton to the notice of the court; and he believed that he had been very instrumental in obtaining the appointment for that gentleman. (*Hear, hear !*) If his subsequent conduct in that situation rendered him justly liable to the observations made by the gallant officer, then certainly it might be alleged that he (the *Chairman*) had made a bad selection. He however entertained a different opinion; and he had no reason whatever to say but that his conduct as superintendent of the Bombay Marine was perfectly correct, and that it did not deserve the strong and pointed observations which had been made on it. (*Hear !*) At any rate, that individual (as the gallant officer had said) had gone to render an account of his conduct before a higher tribunal, and he had no doubt but that it would be a just one. (*Hear !*) It was however extremely hard on his memory that his conduct should now be impugned in that court, where neither he nor his friends could have an opportunity to vindicate it. (*Hear, hear !*) Certain observations had been made by the gallant officer on the conduct of the present superintendent. On the point of accusation he could only say, that if, having it in his power to give the command of the Company's ships of war to their own naval officers, the present superintendent had in any instance, instead of doing so, given the command to men not belonging to the marine, but to the commercial service, then he had unquestionably done wrong (*Hear, hear !*); and he had no hesitation in stating that, if such conduct were proved, he would be perfectly ready to call on the Court of Directors to express a strong and decided opinion on the

the subject. (*Hear!*) It was, however, impossible that they could, without injustice, judge of the reason, or the motive, which might have induced such a proceeding, and therefore he wished to look into that point before the Court of Directors were called upon to pronounce the superintendent guilty of misconduct, as he would certainly be, if he were not justified by peculiar circumstances, in acting as had been represented. (*Hear, hear!*) Now, he was free to admit (and he had never contended otherwise), that the Bombay Marine, which was a most gallant and meritorious service, had laboured under considerable disadvantages. The gallant officer had, however, gone further; he had stated that that service was neglected and degraded. (*Hear!*) To that assertion he begged leave to give the most decided and complete denial. (*Hear!*) On the contrary, so far as it had been competent to the proper authority to better the situation of that service, it had been done. It had not been, nor was it in their power to do all that they wished, but this he must say, that the Court of Directors had not been negligent in making applications in that quarter, with the concurrence of which only they could effect those ameliorations to which they looked anxiously forward. (*Hear!*) With regard to the allowances of the Bombay Marine, the Court of Directors had not been backward. He believed that those who were attached to that body were not actuated by interested motives, but directed their views to higher objects; still, however, it must be recollected, that only in the way to which he had alluded had the Court of Directors the power to afford encouragement to this gallant corps; and that power they had exercised to a considerable extent. He believed that at the time when the gallant officer first entered the service, he entered it with the understanding that, so long as he continued attached to it, there were certain portions of pay and allowances which he was to receive. Now, he begged leave to ask, what had been since done gratuitously on the part of the Company, independently of any obligation under which they were placed, with regard to the original terms upon which the gallant officer and others had entered the service. (*Hear, hear!*) When he used the word "gratuitously," he meant also to say, that the rewards conferred on the marine service were well deserved and earned; but still he must be allowed to notice the fact, to shew that this was not a service so neglected and degraded (so far as the Court of Directors had opportunity and ability to support and sustain it) as the gallant officer had thought proper to assert. (*Hear!*) In 1798, when new regulations with regard to the army were promulgated, a grant

was made to the Bombay Marine, by which the officers of that corps were allowed the privilege of retiring on a certain rate of pay, and he begged leave to say, that the grant in each instance was made quite independent of the conditions on which gentlemen had entered the service. At that time the retirement of a Commodore was £228; for a senior Captain £110; for a junior Captain £105, and for a first Lieutenant £80. In 1823, an increase of these retiring allowances took place, viz. the Commodore was allowed £450; the senior Captain £360; the junior Captain £270, and the first Lieutenant £180. By-the-by, he should here take leave to observe, that if these allowances were compared with those granted to officers in H.M.'s naval service, a material advantage in favour of the officers of the Company's marine would be apparent. He rejoiced at the circumstance; but gentlemen, in arguing this question, ought to compare the situation of the Company's marine officers with the corresponding service to which this country was so mainly indebted for all its honour and glory, and they would then, he was convinced, find that the Bombay Marine was not that neglected service which the gallant officer had described it to be. (*Hear!*) In August 1826, he believed, another increase of the retiring allowance was granted. The junior Captain was allowed £293, and the first Lieutenant £191. 12s. 6d.; therefore it was evident that, so far as it was possible for the Court of Directors to hold out encouragement to that service, it had been any thing but neglected by them. (*Hear, hear!*) Degraded, he was sure, they had never been: that point was, of course, in their own power—they could only be degraded by their own conduct; and he must say, that it was impossible for any class of men to have more distinguished themselves, or to have separated themselves more from the idea of degradation, than the officers of the Bombay Marine had done. (*Hear, hear!*) At the same time that the gallant officer had strongly censured one of the superintendents, he had bestowed a great deal of praise on another. It was not his intention, in touching on this part of the subject, to detract in any degree, or in any shape whatever, from the praise which had been given to that superintendent, Mr. Money. The gallant officer, towards the conclusion of his statement relative to Mr. Money's services, had said, that that gentleman had resigned his office in disgust; now he, of course, had no means of arriving at the exact motives which induced Mr. Money to give up the situation; but this he knew, that when he left the service he entered into a very profitable mercantile partnership. He believed that Mr. Money had left the Company's ser-

vice (as was no doubt very right, and proper) for the promotion of his own interest; and he further believed, that a disgust for the service had nothing whatever to do with his resignation. (*Hear, hear!*) Something had been said by the gallant Colonel (Stanhope) about uncommodoring the Commodore. (*Laughter.*) Now, if he understood any thing of the nature of the naval service (and, God knew, his information was very slight), he felt no hesitation in saying that the conduct of Lord Amherst, on the occasion alluded to, had better have been spared. (*Hear, hear!*) Because, he repeated, if he knew any thing of the naval service, the station of Commodore was entirely temporary—no one heard of it except when the individual was on board ship and at sea.

Capt. Mayfield.—“Not known at Bombay?”

The *Chairman* continued—That was a situation quite peculiar to itself, but with respect to the naval rank of Commodore (and he spoke in the knowledge and hearing of gentlemen who could contradict him if he were wrong), he contended that it did not exist on shore, that it was only known on board ship. (*Hear!*) Then, if this were so, he would assert, that, according to the established usage and practice of society in India, and throughout their service in general, it was stepping a great deal beyond the line of prudence and propriety, to give to the wife of Commodore Hayes that rank and precedence which Lord Amherst had done; and, therefore, he was ready to take his share of the blame, as one of those who thought it necessary to prevent such an occurrence, in future, by uncommodoring the Commodore, unless when he was at sea. (*Hear, hear!*) He would now say a word or two on the subject of the Chinese junks. He was pretty confident, after what had been stated on this point by the gallant officer, that the court would hardly agree with him, that it would have been consistent with justice (certainly it would not have been consistent with the interest of the East-India Company), if, acting on the principles of national law, recognized by their country and by Europe, they had strictly imposed the same obligations on individuals, the subjects of China, who were ignorant of the existence of any such law, as they would thus have been required to obey, and who were employed in the ordinary, and otherwise legal traffic to which they had been accustomed. (*Hear!*) If, in consequence of the breaking out of war between this country and an European state, they had, on this occasion, rigidly enforced the international practice of Europe, he should like to know what, at the present moment, would have become of the China trade? (*Hear!*) And if there were an interruption of that

trade, what, he asked, at this time, would have become of the East-India Company itself? (*Hear, hear!*) He did not wish to detract from the disinterestedness of Commodore Hayes; but he certainly should have said, if he had suffered those vessels to be carried as prizes into an Indian port, that he had proved himself to be extremely regardless of the interest of those whose servant he was—namely, of the East-India Company. (*Hear!*) It had been said, that expectations were held out from that chair of the correction of the present inconvenience under which the Bombay Marine existed; and it seemed to be imputed as an intentional offence, that these expectations had not been realized. Now he begged leave to assure the court, that those promises were not only not broken, but that they had not been at all neglected. The fact was, there had been difficulties which stood in the way of an arrangement, with a view to the correction of the inconvenience complained of; but he had again the satisfaction to repeat to the court, that since he made the declaration which he had done from that chair, farther progress, and very material progress, had been made towards the attainment of that object. (*Hear!*) And he was perfectly convinced, that nothing was so likely to retard the object of those measures, to which the Court of Directors had resorted, as the introduction of premature discussion on the subject. (*Hear!*) He certainly had expected that somewhat more of attention and of credit would have been given to a statement coming from that chair (*Hear!*); and he could not but say, in that point of view, that he felt something like a manifestation of disrespect towards himself, personally, in the requisition by which the court had been convened, on the part of those by whom it had been signed. (*Hear!*) He felt himself, therefore, inclined to ask of that court for a declaration of their opinion that he was entitled to their confidence in making to them the statement which he had formerly submitted to them in his official capacity. (*Hear, hear!*) He begged leave, therefore (notwithstanding an observation which had fallen from an hon. proprietor on a late occasion, who could not coincide in the propriety of any motion relating to the conduct of the Court of Directors, coming from behind the bar), to move an amendment to the motion of the gallant officer. He did this, not for the purpose of procuring praise, but as a measure justly due to himself, in confirmation of that confidence to which he considered that he was fairly entitled when he publicly made an official statement. (*Cheers.*) The hon. *Chairman* concluded by moving, that all the words after the word “that,” be omitted, for the purpose of introducing the following:—

“It

"It having been declared from the Chair, that measures are in progress for improving the condition of the Bombay Marine, and for placing it on a footing more consonant to the merits and services of that distinguished corps, this Court is disposed to give confidence to the correctness of the statement thus given from the Chair, and considers it, therefore, both injudicious and inexpedient to force a premature discussion of the subject on this Court, until the details of the proposed plan come regularly before it."

The Deputy Chairman (the Hon. H. Lindsay).—"In rising to second the amendment which has been proposed by my hon. colleague, I cannot avoid noticing the singularity of the proceeding on the part of the gallant officer, in having delayed to submit his motion to the court until after it had been distinctly signified from the chair, that the improvement of the Bombay Marine was not merely in contemplation, but that active measures had been taken to promote that object. (*Hear!*) This being the fact, I certainly think that the gallant officer might have left the business in the hands of the executive body until he learned what had been done, or what amelioration had been made. (*Hear!*) I can assure the gallant officer, that I am not behind him in giving all due credit to the merits of the Bombay Marine. Under all the circumstances in which they have been placed, they have constantly performed their duty in a most able and effective manner. (*Hear!*) I also concur entirely with the gallant officer, as to the zeal, attention, and ability that were manifested by Mr. Money, during the time when he filled the situation of superintendent of the Bombay Marine; but I must take the liberty of stating, from my own knowledge, that Mr. Money did not retire from the Bombay Marine on account of disgust. (*Hear!*) I had the honour of Mr. Money's confidence up to the time of his resignation, and I know that the cause of that proceeding has not been correctly stated by the gallant officer. The hon. Baronet (Sir Charles Forbes) who now hears me, will, I am confident, answer for the correctness of that fact. (*Hear!*) I must also observe, while acknowledging the zeal, talent and ability of Mr. Money, that the desire of the Court of Directors to obtain, for the Bombay Marine, those advantages which they required, must have been evident to, and must have been assisted by, him, as he had been behind the bar for six or seven years. He must have seen the efforts that were making by the Court of Directors; he must have known that we were advancing slowly, but, as I hope, surely, towards that object which we have been most desirous to attain. (*Hear!*) The gallant officer

observes, that the mercantile service is represented in this court, but that our marine service is not. Now I say that the court is as open to a gentleman connected with the marine service, if he chooses to purchase stock, as to any other person. Under all the circumstances, I heartily concur in the amendment, which, I hope, will be carried by a large majority." (*Hear!*)

Sir C. Forbes requested that the gallant officer would withdraw his motion, (*Hear!*) than which, he conceived, nothing could be more ill-timed. (*Hear!*) Every one who knew the gallant officer, must be aware of the honourable and disinterested motives which induced him to bring this question before the court; but yet he could not but regret that the gallant officer had introduced it, after the declaration that had been made by the hon. Chairman. (*Hear!*) In answer to a question which he (Sir C. Forbes) had put on a former occasion, pending the progress of a bill which was then passing through the House of Commons; after the declaration which the hon. Chairman then made, that the subject of the Bombay Marine had been long under the anxious consideration of the Court of Directors, with a view to the amelioration of the service, and that proceedings were, at that moment, in progress to place the marine service in a better situation, he confessed that he regretted exceedingly the bringing forward of this motion on the part of his gallant friend (*Hear!*); and he should hope that he would be induced to withdraw it. (*Hear!*) In that case, he should also trust that the hon. Chairman would not feel it necessary to press the amendment which he had proposed; and then, as a matter of course, the proceedings would end. He certainly concurred in the propriety of the amendment that had been submitted to them, but still he thought it would be better not to press it. In justice to his gallant friend he must say, that, so far as he had heard his statements (for he had entered the court some time after his gallant friend had commenced his speech), almost every thing which he had advanced, so far as his (Sir C. Forbes') information extended, was perfectly correct. (*Hear!*) He had no doubt that the gallant officer had stated facts, and, however much they were to be regretted, he was disposed to give credit to them; but then, the truth was, that all those proceedings to which the gallant officer had adverted, were at an end; and that they never would occur again he firmly believed. With respect to the assertion, that Mr. Money had quitted the service, in disgust, he could assure his gallant friend that he was entirely misinformed. No man could speak more decidedly to this point than he could do; and

he would say distinctly, that his friend, Mr. Money, retired from the Bombay Marine with regret. He had not the least hesitation in positively declaring that fact; because the proposition for leaving the Bombay Marine was made by himself (*Hear!*); and it was made in order that Mr. Money should join the mercantile establishment at Bombay of which he (Sir Charles) was a partner. The proposition was made for Mr. Money's advantage, as well as for the advantage of others. (*Hear!*) So far from immediately availing himself of the opportunity of retiring from a situation with which it was said he was disgusted, he, on the contrary, wished to remain; he was several months before he could make up his mind on the subject. Indeed, he (Sir Charles) recommended him, again and again, not to act precipitately, and nearly twelve months elapsed before he came to a final determination; during the whole of which time he was occupied in making all the necessary arrangements which the marine service required, before he quitted the situation. Mr. Money was highly worthy of his post; he exerted himself to the utmost for the benefit of the marine service; and would, he was convinced, feel an attachment towards it to the last moment of his life. He concurred in all that was said, on each side of the bar, as to the merits of the Bombay Marine. He believed that a more deserving set of men, as public servants, did not exist. (*Hear!*) And he was only sorry that circumstances did not allow them to have done as much as, he was sure, they could have done. (*Hear!*) He greatly regretted, that some mark of distinction had not been granted to officers who had so greatly signalized themselves. With respect to Commodore Hayes, every person who knew him would admit, that he was one of the most disinterested men in the world; and he believed that the order which he issued in reference to the China junks, was one that very few men besides himself would have sent forth. He conceived that such conduct must have recommended him strongly to the Company. He thought that the giving up of those junks was extremely proper, and he only wished that the same sort of liberality had been displayed on other occasions.

Mr. S. Dixon said, his opinion was exactly the same with that of the hon. bart. who had just addressed the Court. As the subject alluded to by the gallant officer was admitted to be under consideration or deliberation at the present moment, it became a question whether more need be said this day than had already been said. The hon. Chairman had explicitly stated, in his official capacity, that the subject was under the most serious consideration of the Court of Directors. This was a confirmation of what had been stated on

a former occasion. The hon. Chairman declared, that the meritorious conduct of the Bombay Marine had been kept in view, up to the present moment; that in fact, it had never been lost sight of. He trusted, therefore, that the gallant officer would feel that he had, by eliciting such a statement, effected the object which he had in view, and that he would not refuse to withdraw his motion. If he did so, he conceived that the amendment would drop altogether. (*Hear!*) He believed that, in saying this, he was uttering not merely his own opinion, but the opinion of the great body of proprietors. (*Hear, hear!*)

Dr. Gilchrist felt called upon to speak. He was one of those who had signed the requisition, and was therefore branded with want of respect to the hon. Chairman. This was an accusation, however, that did not apply to him; at least, he meant not to shew disrespect to any person when he put his name to the requisition. But certainly, when he was asked to assist in calling a general Court, he would never consult either the Chairman or Deputy Chairman. It appeared that the gallant officer who had brought forward this motion, had been honoured for his conduct with public approbation. Now he was convinced that such a man, unless he had a right to complain of the service, would not have introduced a motion of this nature. When the gallant officer arrived in this country, he had a long account (he dared to say a perfectly just one) against the Company. Not the smallest item of that account was disputed; and it was settled with a rapidity which actually astonished him (Dr. G.). The gallant officer could not therefore be looked upon as a grumbler, as a discontented man, whose disappointments, at home or abroad, induced him to make frivolous complaints. It had been asserted, that the Bombay marine had no right to complain, because the officers entered into the service under certain stipulations as to pay and allowances. But did not military men enter the service under certain stipulations? and did they not all know that something had occurred, by which the pay of the army had been increased? Did not many military officers now get more than was stipulated for when they entered the army? But, it appeared that the Bombay marine were to stand still; and, on this point, he conceived that the arguments of the hon. Chairman were particularly unreasonable, and rather unseasonable.

The Chairman.—“I stated no such thing as has been imputed to me. I only pointed out what had been hitherto done, to shew that the Bombay Marine had not been neglected by the Court of Directors.”

Dr. Gilchrist

Dr. Gilchrist contended, that the Bombay Marine had as good a right to an increase of comforts of every description as the army. But there appeared to be something unfortunate in the situation of persons connected with the sea. They were considered as sea-beasts, sea-monsters, who were not capable of the management of their own affairs. The Bombay Marine had been subjected to insults and degradations, to which no other branch of the Company's service was exposed. Had the Bombay Marine been represented, as it ought to be, in that Court, by one or more members of the body behind the bar, he was pretty well convinced they would not have had such grounds for complaint. Mr. Money was, he knew, a Director for some years. He supposed that that hon. gent. found difficulties in the way of improving the condition of the marine service. Now he thought that, on occasions of such importance, it would be well if the Court of Directors requested and received the countenance of the General Court; such a proceeding would be calculated to give weight to their proceedings, and might be the means of effecting much good. For, let it be remembered, the Proprietors, in general, were as much interested in the welfare of the Company, as the gentlemen behind the bar could possibly be, and should not, therefore, be kept in a state of darkness. He might truly say, that the Bombay establishment had been generally neglected. It had not any person, civil, military, or marine, to represent it in the Court of Directors, and might therefore be viewed as the rag end of their system. He should be very glad to see it, as soon as possible, represented in that Court; and, as a beginning of that representation, he believed he saw a gallant officer behind the bar (Major Carnac) who had been connected with that much-neglected presidency. When the election for a Director took place the other day, he (Dr. G.) came to vote, and he expected to see a General Court. He, however, looked for a Chairman in vain—there was none. He only saw ladies dancing to and fro. There might be a *Chairwoman*, but *Chairman* there was none.—(A laugh.) Now if, as the advertisement stated, it was a general court, why were not the usual forms observed?

The Deputy Chairman.—“I can answer the hon. proprietor by stating, that at every Court held for the election of Directors, if there are two rooms open, there is a Chairman in each room; and where the business is of a very pressing nature, there are two gentlemen presiding in each room.”

Col. Stanhope declared, that both the hon. Deputy and the learned Doctor were out of order. They were speaking to matter not at all before the Court.

Dr. Gilchrist said he wished for information; because, on a future day, he meant to ask some questions on the subject of election.

Mr. Wigram.—“I apprehend we are not here to discuss the business of a ballot—but are assembled to discuss a specific question.”

Dr. Gilchrist said he had touched upon this point, because he was anxious not to err through ignorance. He agreed with the gallant colonel, that the shipping interest was fully represented in that Court; and that it had, therefore, an advantage over the Bombay Marine; and indeed, as he had just now stated, it was a melancholy fact, that the Bombay establishment was not properly represented. When he saw how the Court of Directors was filled up, it appeared that every part of their establishments was represented except Bombay, and he might add China. Next to the Bombay Marine, he might observe, that the Company's medical establishment was more neglected than any other body in that Court.—(A laugh.)—What particular dislike was entertained against that body he could not conceive. The army, the engineers, and the artillery, were represented; and the more the various establishments were represented, the greater was their chance of procuring justice from the Executive body. The hon. bart. had stated, that all the matters brought forward by the gallant officer were founded in fact.

Sir C. Forbes.—“To the best of my belief.”

Dr. Gilchrist.—If this were the case, the subject was one that ought not to be passed over hastily. A remedy ought immediately to be provided. When the army brought forward complaints, a remedy was immediately found; and why should not a remedy be devised for the marine service? The hon. Chairman had stated that the former superintendent was no more, and that, therefore, it was improper to make any observations on his conduct. If such a principle as this were acted on, how would it fare with history? A tyrant and a villain would have nothing to do but to die (a laugh), and thus to escape all animalversion. The gallant officer had stated, that the late superintendent had been guilty of certain censurable acts; and the declaration that he was a good man or a great man, in days of yore, had nothing to do with the charge. In fact, it was their very good men in the world, who, relying on the strength of their character, did more mischief than those whose conduct, being questionable, caused inquiry and suspicion.

Mr. Twining thought it was an act of justice, both to the Chairman and to the Court, to give his most strenuous support to the amendment which had been brought forward.

forward.—(Hear!) He was not surprised that, without imputing any unfair or illiberal feelings to other gentlemen, the hon. Chairman should have been a little hurt at the introduction of this subject, after the plain declaration he had made, that the utmost exertions had been, and were in active operation for the attainment of that object which they all appeared to have in view.—(Hear!) One sentiment at least appeared to be unanimous on all sides of the Court, that of doing justice and giving merited distinction to the Bombay Marine. All parties strove to confer upon that corps the honour which was due to it. The disadvantages under which that service laboured had been felt and known for a considerable length of time; and when it was ascertained that every exertion was making to procure for the marine corps all that was necessary for their comfort and honour, he conceived that the business should have been allowed to rest where it was. When it was considered that the point at which the Bombay Marine aimed, could not be effected independently of the Government (for the Company could award pecuniary compensation alone), he was not surprised that some time had elapsed in making the necessary arrangement. But when it was clearly stated that the Executive Body were doing every thing in their power to attain the desired object, he conceived it to be an act of justice, imperatively due to the Executive, to support the amendment now brought forward, which, he hoped, would be put from the Chair, and carried by a large majority.—(Hear!)

Mr. *Weeding* observed, that on three different occasions the hon. Chairman had stated to the Court, that this subject was under the serious consideration of the Executive Body; and therefore he conceived, that to bring the present motion forward was not only frivolous, but in some degree vexatious. He thought that the amendment was a very fair rebuke (indeed the introduction of this question, under all the circumstances, would have warranted a much stronger), and he hoped the hon. Chairman would not be induced to recal it.

Capt. *Maxfield* replied. He observed, that the unequivocal acknowledgments made by the hon. Chairman, relative to the merits and claims of the Bombay Marine, and his declaration that the Court of Directors were using their best efforts to render that corps efficient in every respect, were exceedingly satisfactory to him, and would operate to induce him to follow the suggestion of the hon. bart. (Sir C. Forbes) to withdraw his motion for papers, because he had nearly accomplished the object which he had in view. The great respect which he entertained for the hon. bart., would at all times induced him to attend to any suggestion of his; but, on the present occasion,

there was a difficulty in the way, which it was proper he should explain, before he could adopt the course pointed out. In the observations he had made, which, so far as the knowledge of the hon. bart. went, (and the hon. bart. had resided at Bombay), were most handsomely corroborated by him; he had referred to documents and orders, which were to be found on the records of the house, in support of his statements. The hon. Chairman, in his answer, had contented himself with a mere contradiction of those statements; but he had neither attempted, nor was it in his power, to confute a single position that he (Captain Maxfield) had laid down. He had, notwithstanding, moved an amendment, which he was certain of carrying. Thus it was that the hon. Chairman met the most stubborn facts; facts which were supported by the undeniable evidence of the Company's records. If, under such circumstances, he were to consent to withdraw his motion for papers, it would appear on his part to be a shrinking from proofs, and it was essentially necessary that he should avoid even the possibility of such an imputation. He therefore wished to say, that if the papers were produced, they would furnish incontestable proof as to the party in error, whether himself or the hon. Chairman; and he hesitated not to assert, that if they did not fully establish all that he (Captain Maxfield) had advanced, as to the neglect, degradation, and persecution of the marine service, then he would pledge himself never to raise his voice in that court again; the option, of course, remained with the hon. Chairman. He (Captain Maxfield) moved for evidence. He did not shrink from it; he desired it—he solicited it—and the public would judge between himself and the parties to whom he applied. The hon. Chairman had endeavoured to avoid any notice of the powerful evidence which he (Captain Maxfield) had adduced, and which, in fact, could not be shaken, by averting to what he was pleased to designate reflections on the late superintendent of the marine. Now, if he were not much mistaken, he had in the outset declared distinctly, that he did not mean to offer any comments on the conduct of that officer; but he certainly did not intend, nor could he be weak enough to refrain from producing facts, to shew what that conduct was. The hon. Chairman must be aware that those facts could not be denied; they were to be found noted on the Company's records. He was not answerable for the orders or for the conduct of the superintendent. He had, however, an undoubted right to notice them; and he thought that he behaved with sufficient forbearance, in not making them the subject of severe comment. The hon. bart. (Sir C. Forbes) had stated, that, from his intimate acquaintance with Mr.

Money,

Money, he could decidedly affirm, that that gentleman did not resign his office in disgust, but that he had recourse to that step for the purpose of promoting his own private advantage: The hon. bart. had undoubtedly a better opportunity of being acquainted with Mr. Money's motives than he (Captain Maxfield) could pretend to, and therefore he was thankful for being set right on that point. He, however, had been led to suppose that Mr. Money had resigned in disgust, because he was aware that the Court of Directors had sent out some orders about the time of his resignation, that were very unsatisfactory to him. The hon. Chairman had observed that Commodore Hayes, in ordering the liberation of the Chinese junks, had only performed a duty which he owed to the Company; and he acknowledged that the commodore, by his conduct on that occasion, had probably saved the Company from ruin, by preventing the destruction of the China trade. Now, he would ask, whether the treatment which he had described the marine as having suffered, was likely to encourage such feelings of disinterestedness and devotion? and he would further ask, whether the Court of Directors had ever acknowledged the important service rendered to the Company by Commodore Hayes?—(*Hear!*) The commodore, he must say, in issuing such orders, had greatly exceeded his authority. He was not warranted in compelling those officers to release the junks. They complied out of courtesy and esteem to the individual, and not from any conviction that they were legally bound to do so. The orders in council (which were superior to the orders of Commodore Hayes, or to the commercial interests of the East-India Company) were most imperative; and if those junks had been sent into any of the Admiralty courts, their condemnation must have followed. Strange, however, it was, that in the same breath in which the hon. Chairman praised the disinterestedness of Commodore Hayes in making so great a sacrifice, he informed the proprietors that he had acceded to a vote which deprived the *Commodore* of his rank, and reduced him to the grade of *Captain* only. The hon. Chairman and the Court of Directors had taken this step to prevent Lord Amherst from again handing the wife of this old and most meritorious officer before any of the ladies of the civil service; and as an apology for doing so, the hon. Chairman said, he could not conceive how the commodore could be properly so designated when on shore; because, according to his ideas, no person, could be considered as a commodore except when he was afloat. It appeared to him that, in making this observation, the hon. Chairman proved that he knew very little of the marine service; because, by

the orders and regulations of the Court, the marine commodore at Bombay was seldom or ever afloat. He had, notwithstanding, a commission given him as commodore, with certain rank and pay; and he believed that neither Commodore Brally, Commodore Mainwaring, or Commodore Holles, ever served afloat since they were promoted to that rank; while, on the other hand, of all the officers of the Bombay marine, no one young or old ever served so much afloat, in every rank of the service, as Commodore Hayes. The hon. Chairman had forgotten, or perhaps the fact had not come to his knowledge, that when the Court of Directors conferred upon Commodore Hayes the appointment he at present held, it was as a reward for his gallantry. It would be found recorded in that house, that this honour, was conferred on him without prejudice to his rank or standing in the marine service. The hon. Chairman had declared that the bringing the present subject under discussion was premature. This point must be judged of by comparison; and if it were premature to bring forward the defects of a corps, which defects had been in existence for twenty-five years, why then he was entirely at a loss to know what might be deemed a mature period for introducing the subject,—(*Hear!*)—The hon. Chairman had regretted that confidence had not been placed in the sincerity of his declaration, that strenuous efforts were making to improve the situation of the marine, which efforts he was then actively engaged in making. In answer to this he begged, in the most unequivocal manner, to state, that he placed entire confidence in the hon. Chairman's efforts,—(*Hear!*)—as well as in those of his honourable deputy.—(*Hear!*) But he could not forget that the chairs went out by rotation, and that the hon. gent. would shortly quit the situation he now filled. He had also heard, for the last twenty-five years, that the marine was to be improved; and for the last four years he had been closely watching the progress of that promised work. The result, he confessed, was by no means satisfactory. In the years 1823 and 1824, when there was one of their most able and distinguished members in the chair, a strenuous effort was made, with every chance of success, to improve the marine. The object was nearly effected, but that able chairman was removed by the rotatory system; and the marine, by the same rotatory effects which had operated against it for the last 28 years, still remained unimproved. In the march of human events a favourable period might arrive for carrying into effect a system of improvement, and he believed that it was not far distant; but, however near it might be, he feared that but few of their old and faithful officers, who had devoted their lives, in that service,

to the Company, would exist to hail that so much desired hour. But their friends might have the consolation of inscribing on their tombs: "Here lies an old officer, who served the East-India Company faithfully, zealously, and devotedly, for probably nearly fifty years, in a profession purely military, during which time he was denied the means of performing his duty with credit to himself or benefit to his country. Had he contrived to live fifty years longer, a better opportunity would have been afforded him, as the Court of Directors intended to render the corps he belonged to effective."—(Laughter.)—Before he concluded he could not omit to mention the kindness and consideration of many of his Majesty's naval officers with whom the Bombay Marine had been especially associated on service. In most instances (and he spoke from experience), the British navy had exhibited a degree of sympathy, feeling, and liberality, towards the officers of the marine, which the orders and treatment of the Court of Directors were but little calculated to produce. The gratuitous consideration and liberality of that gallant corps formed a striking contrast with the conduct of those whose duty it was to uphold and cherish the Bombay Marine, rather than to neglect and degrade it. That marine was employed upon the most arduous services, and yet the Court of Directors took no measures whatever to man or equip them efficiently. It remained solely dependent on the efforts of a commander to obtain a crew, as if the vessel belonged to him and not to the state. The individual in command received no aid from the Court of Directors or the government abroad; he was left to his own resources, and frequently had to be obliged to rob their merchantships of part of their crews, that he might man the cruisers which he commanded. He thus always procured a crew, and he would rather run the risk of being dismissed the service for distressing the Indians, than he would take the chance of being without the means of defending the ships he commanded, and of upholding the honour of the colours which they carried.—(Hear!)—He was with reluctance compelled to advert to these facts; but he was borne out by evidence, and the papers, if granted, would prove that he was correct. The hon. Chairman and himself were at issue as to those facts; and the records of the Court of Directors could decide easily between them. He was indifferent as to the amendment moved by the hon. Chairman, who was always sure to command a majority. But the public would justly appreciate the value of such a decision. For his own part, he shrank not from inquiry—he challenged it. He now left the question in the hands of the Court. It remained with the hon. Chairman to

say whether he would or would not withdraw his amendment.

The Chairman.—"I will not."

Capt. Maxfield.—"If it be the hon. Chairman's object to withhold the documents by pressing the amendment, the hon. gentleman will only seem to shrink from the inquiry which he (Capt. Maxfield) courted and solicited."

The Chairman said the resolutions were sixteen in number, and if they were laid before the Court of Directors, three years more would elapse before any relief would be provided for the Bombay Marine.

The original motion was then put, and negatived by a large majority, only six hands being raised in its favour.

The Chairman was then about to put the question on his amendment, when

Col. Stanhope said, he wished to move an amendment upon the amendment, by omitting the latter part.

The Chairman expressed his doubts as to whether the gallant proprietor could do so.

Mr. Wigram said it was competent to the Court to alter the amendment before it was adopted.

Mr. S. Dixon said, the Chairman had always displayed a willingness to yield to the suggestions made in that Court, and he hoped he would, on the present occasion, allow the word "injudicious" to be struck out of the amendment.

Col. Stanhope then moved that all the words after "give confidence to the statement made from the chair" be omitted.

Sir C. Forbes trusted that the hon. Chairman would, upon consideration, consent not to press the amendment, or, at all events, to adopt the suggestion of the gallant proprietor, and omit the latter part of it.

The Chairman said, he felt obliged to his hon. friend (Sir C. Forbes), if he would allow him to call him so, for the conciliatory proposition which he had made; but he must declare that, under all the circumstances of the case, and when he considered that the requisition for calling the present court had been signed by a set of gentlemen, whose names, varying only in the order in which they were placed, were to be found attached to many other requisitions for exciting discussion in that court, which he thought equally inexpedient with that which had been brought forward on the present occasion, he felt bound to adhere to his original intention, and to press the amendment to a vote. (Hear, hear!) The time was arrived when he was about to quit the direction in rotation; it could not be his wish or interest to act in contradiction to the declared opinion of the body of proprietors; but he was disposed, he might say determined, to place his future prospects on the result of the amendment:

he would, therefore, abide by the terms of the amendment, in which, he must confess, he had intended to express something like censure on the requisitionists. (*Hear, hear!*) By thus acting, he gave them a fair opportunity of exerting all their influence to keep him out of the direction. He would not give up, for conciliation, that which he thought due to his own character and credit, and to the character of those gentlemen with whom he was associated in the direction. (*Cheers.*) He thought it highly necessary that something (conveying the sense of the court) should be adopted, to prevent the interminable discussions which were continually taking place, and which tended in no way to the advantage of the Company, but merely to the gratification of gentlemen who were fond of speaking. (*Cheers.*)

The Deputy Chairman said, that after what had fallen from their worthy chairman, in explanation of the honourable motives which induced him to persevere in his amendment, he trusted that the court would not permit it to be withdrawn, but would carry it by a large majority. (*Hear!*)

Mr. Pattison entirely concurred in the view which the hon. Chairman had taken of the subject: the words of censure in the amendment were of the most mitigated character which the English language would admit of; the hon. Chairman intended to express, by his amendment, that it was desirable to check the practice of making motions of the nature of the present, in opposition to an express declaration made by the organ of the court; for, on the occasion to which he alluded, the Chairman spoke, not as an individual, but as the organ of the Court of Directors. He did not wish to say any thing unkind, but he could not help stating, that in the manner in which the motion had been brought forward, he saw something like a perverse determination to do that which the Court of Directors considered to be inexpedient. The executive body had, he thought, a right to expect that degree of confidence from their constituents which the hon. Chairman claimed for them, and he hoped that, chosen as they were by themselves to represent the general body of proprietors, it would not be withdrawn. (*Hear, hear!*) The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman had used their utmost endeavours to effect the object to which the original motion referred; their efforts had been most promisingly successful, and surely it was rather hard at the close of their direction, when business pressed upon them, to be called upon to summon a special court, upon a matter which did not require such interference. The Chairman had obtained the approbation of his colleagues for his conduct in the distinguished station which he filled, and he was sure that he would also obtain that of

the general body. (*Cheers.*) He (Mr. Pattison) felt it his duty, humbly, but firmly, to stand up in support of himself and his colleagues at the present critical conjuncture. If the practice of bringing forward motions so unnecessary, on matters declared from the higher authority to be under the special care and attention of the Court of Directors, were persevered in, that body might as well be dissolved, and allowed to pursue their private avocations, which, at present, they willingly sacrificed, in order to promote the interests of the Company. If the Court of Proprietors should persist in such interference, there was an end of the confidence which, in his humble opinion, ought to be reposed in the executive body. Under these circumstances, he trusted that the amendment of the Chairman, which was couched in very moderate terms, merely declaring that there was something injudicious—something inexpedient—in thus bringing this subject before the court, would be agreed to. (*Hear, hear, hear!*)

Sir C. Forbes said, it appeared to him that they were now entering on a more important question than that which had hitherto occupied their attention (*Hear!*); and that was neither more nor less than whether the privileges enjoyed by the Court of Proprietors were to be curtailed; whether nine gentlemen were to be permitted to bring before the court any question which they thought proper, however erroneous and inexpedient. This was a very serious question. He certainly regretted that the motion made that day had been brought forward, and if he had known of it before hand, he would have taken on himself to advise the gallant Captain not to do so. He, however, gave the gallant Captain all due credit for his good intentions, and he earnestly entreated of the Court, generally, not to carry the angry feeling which had been excited any farther. The conduct of the Directors had, in his opinion, been most completely justified and approved; they had deservedly received the praise which was due to them, and if they would consent to abandon the amendment, or, at least, to omit the words objected to, he was sure it would have more effect in accomplishing the object they had in view, than pushing matters to an extremity. With respect to the present mode of calling special courts, he must say he had not the least objection that the present number of proprietors necessary for that purpose, should be doubled, or that, in future, a court should not be summoned unless upon the requisition of twenty or twenty-five proprietors. (*Hear!*)

Col. Stanhope said that the last three speakers had not spoken one word upon the question before the court. He called them all to order. (*Laughter.*)

The *Chairman*.—"It was proposed to leave out the very gist of the motion; and objecting to that course was certainly speaking to the question."

Capt. *Mayfield* hoped, that he would be allowed to make a few observations on what had fallen from the chair. He was extremely sorry that the time of the court had been occupied in endeavouring to qualify the terms of the amendment. He was perfectly indifferent as to those terms, and cared not at all whether the amendment were made ten times stronger or ten times weaker; such amendments, unsupported by evidence, or even by the shadow of argument, told against those who introduced them rather than for them. He would leave the merits of the case to the public; and he thought that, if the hon. Chairman was anxious to do the same, he would produce, instead of withholding, the papers. The hon. Chairman had, in his opinion, indiscreetly disclosed more than he intended. He thanked him for his communicativeness; since he had clearly evinced, that the words "injurious and inexpedient," in his amendment, were meant to mark his aversion to general courts, and to those who frequently called them. Whether such an expression of his dissatisfaction was likely to render them less frequent, remained to be seen; but certainly the hon. Chairman's hinting such a dislike to his constituents, implied a disregard to the law as it at present stood. If the Court of Directors conceived, that meeting their constituents, occasionally, in general court, were irksome and unnecessary, had they not better apply to Parliament to deprive the proprietors of the right of calling such courts, and thus secure their own authority in perpetuity? But, until the act which gave the proprietors the right to call general courts were repealed, he should continue to exercise it (*Hear!*); and he hoped that others would be found equally determined to resist all attempts to frustrate it. (*Hear!*) Had the hon. Chairman made such an observation when a court had been called, and the mover of a question had failed in making out any case, then the policy or expediency (to use his own words) of such a remark would be very questionable; but, in the present instance, where as strong a case as ever was brought before the court had been substantiated, and remained unanswered (because it was unanswerable), then he conceived such an observation to be as impotent as it was injudicious and inexpedient.

Mr. *S. Dixon* said, it was evident, from what had fallen from the Chairman, that he felt offended by the conduct of the gentlemen amongst whom he (Mr. Dixon) was sitting. He would be sorry, at his late period of life, to be obliged

to change sides; but it was evident he had got into a bad neighbourhood. (*Hear! and a laugh.*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* rose amidst cries of "question." He hoped he did not come in "a questionable shape." The Chairman had called him and his friends a "set" of people—he might as well have called them "a crew." The stigma was so infectious, that a gentleman had already declared he found himself in "a bad neighbourhood." Did the hon. Chairman mean to brand them?—to put a black ball into their ballot box? (*A laugh.*) The motion, as proposed to be amended by Col. Stanhope, went quite far enough: to carry it further betrayed a vindictive spirit. He would be happy to meet the directors in a conciliatory manner; but the more he was opposed, the more he would fight. (*Laughter.*)

The *Chairman* put the question upon Col. Stanhope's amendment, which was negatived.

Sir *C. Forbes* said that he would now vote for the Chairman's amendment. (*Hear!*)

The amendment, as originally proposed by the Chairman, was then put and carried.

MR. BOSANQUET.

Mr. *Twining* observed, that as this was the first court which had been held since a change had taken place in the direction, in consequence of Mr. Bosanquet's retirement, his object in rising was, to give notice of his intention to submit, at the next quarterly court, a resolution, expressing the high regard entertained by the court for that hon. gentleman; and he requested that any letters which had passed, or any resolution which had been entered into by the Court of Directors on the subject, might be produced on that occasion, as it was probable he might request them to be read.

INDIA PATRONAGE.

Col. *Stanhope* gave notice that, at the next general court, he would move for a return of all writerships, cadetships, surgeons' appointments, nautical appointments, and all other patronage in the gift of the Court of Directors during the years 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, 1824, 1825, and 1826.

INDIAN SUTTEES.

Mr. *Poynder* moved for a copy of a statement presented by Mr. Hindleston, a late director, to the Court of Directors, on the subject of the burning of widows in India.

The *Chairman* said the hon. proprietor could not then move, but only give notice for the next general court.

Mr. *Poynder* said that would be of no use, as he wanted to refer to the document previously to bringing forward a motion, of which he had given notice, at the next court.

Mr.

Mr. Wigram said, that the hon. proprietor might move that the document be read before bringing on his motion. It might be brought into court for that purpose.

Col. Stanhope hoped that a similar indulgence would be extended to him, and that his returns might be ready in court to be referred to.

Mr. Wigram said, the gallant Colonel must be aware that there was a great distinction between the two motions: one was for the production of a document already in existence, whilst the other called for a return of all the patronage of the directors, which might comprise most extensive details.

Col. Stanhope said he was sorry to hear that the directors' patronage was so extensive.

Dr. Gilchrist gave notice that he would move, at the next general court, for a return, setting forth the number of attendances of each director at Courts of Directors during the last year, and also their respective ages and abilities, on account of bodily health and mental capacity, to perform the duties of their responsible situations. (*A laugh.*)

The Chairman thought the learned Doctor had better seek for information from the gentlemen themselves, or their medical attendants, as to the condition of their minds and bodies. (*Laughter.*)

The court then adjourned at 4 o'clock.

East-India House, March 21.

A quarterly General Court of Proprietors of the East-India Stock was this day held, pursuant to the charter.

ASSISTANT SURGEON AT CHATHAM.

The minutes of the last court having been read:—

The Chairman stated, that the present court was made special for the purpose of submitting for confirmation the resolution of the general court of the 7th ult. approving of the resolution of the Court of Directors of the 10th of January last, appointing an assistant in the medical department at the Company's depôt at Chatham, with a salary of £300 per annum, and an allowance of £40 per annum for house rent.

The resolution was confirmed without observation.

BOARDS IN INDIA.

The Chairman.—“There are a variety of notices of motions standing for to-day, and such as will necessarily occupy a great deal of the time and attention of the court. Chiefly with a view to general convenience, I would take the liberty to request of gentlemen, in bringing forward those motions, that they will confine themselves to the respective subjects of such motions (*Hear!*), and give us a prospect of getting through the business to-day. The first

notice given by an hon. proprietor (Capt. Maxfield) was, that at the next general court, meaning the present, he would move for papers relative to the existing usage, as to the mode pursued by some of the boards in India in doing business, and the manner in which their accounts were audited.

Capt. Maxfield said, he was perfectly prepared to proceed with his motion; but it had unfortunately happened that his servant, in putting the papers into his carriage, had forgotten some official documents which were essential to the object he had in view, and which he wished to have in his hand when he addressed the court: he must, therefore, postpone his motion to the next quarterly general court, or to any other convenient opportunity. It was a matter of very great importance to ascertain how the accounts of the Company's servants in India were audited.

THE PRESS IN INDIA.

The Chairman said, the next notice of motion had been given by Col. Stanhope, and should now be read.

The following motion was then read by the proper officer:—

“That as the King of England's most upright and learned chief justice, Sir Edward West, and his Majesty's judges, Sir Ralph Rice and Sir Charles Chambers, have declared in open court at Bombay, that the licensing of the press in that settlement is unlawful and inexpedient, and have therefore refused to register the Calcutta regulations; and as no censor existed during the rule of W. Hastings, Lord Cornwallis, or Sir John Shore; and as the Marquis of Hastings, after having beat down the Mahratta confederacy, did, on his triumphal entry into the metropolis, sacrifice the upstart monster, and set the public mind at liberty; and as Mr. Canning, when president of the Board of Control, prevented shackles from being again fastened on the press, and was thanked by this Court for his wise administration; and as no legal restraints on writing, under either native or European Governments, were ever, till of late, enacted, except under the frightful inquisition at Goa; this Court doth implore the Court of Directors not to extend this base monopoly over the mind—this curse—to Bombay. By enthroning the licenser in that presidency, they would make Great Britain guilty of the inconsistency of depriving 100,000,000 of her own subjects of a blessing which she has promoted in Portugal and in South America.”

Col. L. Stanhope said, he rose once more to advocate the cause of a free press, and of the natives of British India; and he called upon the court not to dishonour the country of Milton by placing 100,000,000 of his fellow-subjects (exceeding, in number, the population of France, Austria,

Austria, and Russia) under the most hateful interdicts that ever cramped the human mind. In the year 1813, Parliament declared its determination "to promote the intellectual, moral, and religious improvement of the natives of Hindoostan;" and he besought the Court of Directors not to abridge the wise decrees of the Legislature; by the establishment of a censorship. With respect to the history of the press in British India, he could sum it up in a few words. They were aware that the Hindoos and Chinese contended for the invention of a press; but it was first brought into use in India by the Portuguese, who established some presses at Goa. They there also introduced that scourge of humanity, the inquisition. That horrible engine was brought into frightful activity at Goa. Tavernier, speaking of its proceedings, said, "silence was imposed on the press by the inquisition; and men who disobeyed its decrees were flogged, or burned to the marrow, or tortured to death: nay, worse than that, they were deprived of human food, and some of them actually lived on their own excrement." And was it, then, from this school that the politicians and governors-general of British India were to take their decrees? Was it for them to select the very worst decree of the inquisition, that which established a censorship over the press? Under the native governments, generally speaking, no restrictions were placed on writing. Every thing, however, depended on the character of the government of the reigning prince. If the prince were a bad and tyrannical man, there was an absolute restriction on writing; but if, on the other hand, he were what we would call a good despot, the freedom of writing was enjoyed, even to licentiousness. So notorious was this fact, as to cause the historian of Hindoostan to make this observation, "however surprising it may appear (says he), it is certain, that the philosophers of the East wrote with greater freedom concerning persons and things, than authors dared to do in the West." No restriction was placed on writing until 1798. Up to that time the press in India was on the same footing with the press in England; with this exception, that the governor-general might take away the license of any individual, and prevent him from remaining in India; not the press license, but the license under which his residence was allowed. In all other respects the press was the same there as here. Mr. Hickey was, in the time of Warren Hastings, tried and condemned for a libel; but he was afterwards forgiven by his prosecutor. Col. Duane, a gentleman who had since signalized himself in America, was banished by the Marquis Cornwallis; and Dr. Maclean, another distin-

guished individual was sent away by the Marquis Wellesley. This led to a censorship, which was never registered in the Supreme Court. But, as the Governor-general possessed the power to remove any individual, he exercised that power to fix restraints on the press; and thus the censorship was established. In 1818, the Marquis of Hastings abolished that censorship. The restrictions or regulations which the Marquis of Hastings imposed in lieu of the censorship were never registered. They only operated through the Governor-general (without the concurrence of his council), in whose hands were placed the power of banishing any European he might think fit; but it remained a dead letter during the whole of Lord Hastings' administration; the consequence was, that while the noble Marquis governed, the press was perfectly free. In that time seven newspapers were established; and Mr. Buckingham was brought into court, by the ordinary legal process, to answer for a libel on the six secretaries. Those individuals were perfectly right in bringing their action, if they thought that they had been slandered. A different course was pursued under Mr. Adam's administration, which followed. Mr. Buckingham was banished; and the licensing system was established, and the decree for that purpose registered in the Supreme Court. Thus then the matter stood:—at Madras, the Marquis Wellesley's censorship still prevailed; at Bombay, the press remained in the same state as that in which it existed during the administration of the Marquis of Hastings; that was to say, that, properly speaking, there were no precise restraints on the press; while, at Calcutta, the licensing system was adopted. The supreme court of justice at Bombay, complained of *The Bombay Gazette*, for having miscoloured, garbled, and misrepresented the proceedings of the court. It appeared that Mr. Warden, the chief secretary to the Government, was the proprietor of *The Bombay Gazette*, though the nominal owner and editor was a Mr. Fair. The Bombay Government was irritated at this, and they felt themselves obliged to send home Mr. Fair, on account of those miscoloured statements. Mr. Warden, himself a member of the Government, garbled the proceedings of the Supreme Court—and the Government selected Mr. Fair, a man of straw, as the scapegoat, and sent him home. Subsequently, Sir E. West compelled the editors to register their names. This proceeding was much objected to by the Government of Bombay—but was at last legally enforced; and he must do the Court of Directors the justice to say, that they acquiesced in that measure. They went one step further, in taking which he questioned whether they were right. They prevented any servant of the government from

from writing in any newspaper, or from embarking any property in such a speculation. Here he thought the wisdom of their conduct was doubtful. On the 10th of July 1826, the supreme court of justice at Bombay were called on to register the Bengal regulations. This they refused to do; and all the three judges pronounced it to be unlawful and inexpedient. He would here read to the court one or two extracts from the opinions of the judges on this subject. [Here the gallant colonel quoted several passages from the speeches of Sir E. West, Sir R. Rice, and Sir C. Chambers, in giving their judgment with respect to the registration of the Bengal regulations,—for which see the *Asiatic Journal* for February last, p. 293.] It was (continued the gallant colonel) impossible to speak in terms stronger than those used by the chief justice of Bombay. He (Col. Stanhope) begged the lawyers, who might now happen to be present to state their opinions—and he pledged himself to reply to any observations they might make. Here he had lawyers to oppose lawyers. He should now proceed to consider another subject. He begged to call their attention to the restraints that were imposed upon the press, previously to the establishment of the censorship or of the licensing system in India; and he would ask of them all, as honourable men and Englishmen, to say, whether those restraints were not amply sufficient for every wise and good purpose? Under a free press, such as formerly existed in Bengal, it was necessary in the first place to obtain a license, to enable an individual to reside in India; it was exceedingly difficult to procure this, because the spirit of the Company's government was opposed to colonization. Every one who attempted to proceed to India, must well know how hard it was to procure a license for that purpose. In the second place, if the individual intended to set up a newspaper, he must possess very considerable capital; for that purpose, six, eight, or ten thousand pounds were requisite. In the third place, they must be aware, that the editor of an opposition journal was frowned on by the Government; and therefore where every thing was rewarded by patronage, he could not expect to obtain any situation of emolument. Fourthly, the editor was subject to all the laws, with respect to the press, that were in force in this country; and he might, after a second conviction, be banished, under the provisions of the six acts. And fifthly, his license might, at any time, be withdrawn, by a sort of Star-chamber proceeding; which, however, did not possess the advantages that were allowed in the Star-chamber, where a man was put on his defence. In India no trial was granted; and several persons had been banished in that summary way. Such were the shackles

imposed on what was called the free press; and he asked if these were not amply sufficient, without any precise restrictions, such as were now in force? If any man could place his hand on his heart, and declare that he believed mischief might accrue to India under the free press system (such as he had described it), then he must say, that he could feel very little respect for the understanding of such an individual. He should now proceed to state, as broadly and as powerfully as their lawyers could do, the arguments against a free press. The first argument was, that India must be governed by a despotism—and that a free press and a despotic government could not exist together. Now, he would ask, whether those who used this argument meant to say that India, having been deprived of all the advantages of the native governments, was to be favoured with none of the benefits of British rule. He was certain that this could not be their position. But, let the court examine more narrowly how the case really stood. And, in the first place, he would read a very short, but a very powerful passage from a petition which he had the honour to convey to Mr. Wynn, and which was signed by the celebrated name of Rammohun Roy, and by other natives. In this passage the petitioners spoke, in the most feeling terms, of the loss of the native governments, which, however, they had hoped would have been compensated by the establishment of the press, the diffusion of education, and the formation of many beneficial institutions, and they prayed that those expectations might be fulfilled. [The gallant colonel here read the extract, in which the petitioners stated (in substance) that, under the Mahometan Government the Hindoos were treated in the same manner as the Mussulmans. They filled high offices in the state, and were entrusted with the command of armies. They suffered no disqualifying degradations on account of their religion or place of birth. Some of them received grants of rents and other favours—while natives of learning and talent were placed in situations of honour and emolument. Although, under the British rule, the natives had entirely lost their political consequence, and were prevented from holding honourable situations, either civil or military; yet they felt that they were more than recompensed, by being freed from the tyranny to which they were subjected under the Mussulman government; but, if the rights which they had acquired under the British sway were suffered to be unceremoniously invaded—if the growth of education were checked—if every thing that tended to inspire an honest ambition were discouraged—then the hopes they had cherished of deriving extensive benefits under the British Constitution were destroyed.] But beyond the disadvantages
here

here complained of, he begged leave to point out others under which the natives of India suffered: The British government had beaten down the Indian aristocracy. There was now no aristocracy in the country. Theirs was a levelling system—a jacobin system. They had removed the aristocracy—and they had heavily taxed the land. What was the feeling of political economists with respect to the produce of the soil? They said that one-third should go to the landlord, one-third to the expense of cultivation, and one-third to the cultivators; but he knew, from the best authority, that the system of the Company was that of taking, whenever they could take it, one-half of the produce of the soil. Next he must complain of the state of religious idolatry that prevailed under the British Government, and which could only be broken in on by the efforts of the press; by no other means could it be corrected. As it had beaten down European superstition, why should it not overturn Indian idolatry? an idolatry so gross, that the people believed in 30,000,000 of gods—whose worship was accompanied by all sorts of sacrifices—the sacrifice of children—of sick men at the Ganges—and the burning of widows. Two women, on an average calculation, were said to be destroyed in that manner every day in the year. These scenes were kept up, almost, as it would appear, to cause the Company's government to be despised all over the world. He should next call their attention to the state of the laws; and on this subject he could not do better than to read to them the opinion of Sir T. Munro, the governor of Bombay, who complained of "the dilatoriness and expense" attending legal proceedings in India. Sir Thos. observed, that "the great body of *rijots*, who were most exposed to wrong, must suffer in silence, because, in consequence of the expense, they could not obtain redress; though formerly that object was easily effected, under the ancient law. It is only under a code, framed expressly for their benefit, that they are excluded from justice." This was the statement of Sir T. Munro. Mill could not have written any thing more biting or more powerful, when censuring the misrule of the government. He farther stated, "that the arrear of causes on the 1st of July 1807, amounted to the enormous number of 1,042,406." Was any thing ever heard of half so horrible? Such was the attention paid to the "moral improvement" of the natives, that it was scarcely possible to believe a word they said. If a trial took place, twenty witnesses would be arrayed on one side, and twenty on the other, all equally disregarding of the obligation of an oath. Surely the press might be effectively used, in correcting so deplorable a state of

things. Sir H. Strachey spoke in the most decided terms of the degraded state of morals observable amongst the natives—which in his (Col. Stanhope's) opinion, was a disgrace to their governors. He must also complain, with M. Sismondi, of the native children being totally uneducated, except so far as they were instructed in the absurd fables of their gods. Again, the natives were deprived of the power of petitioning; a right which, he would shew, had been exercised to the greatest extent under all good native governments. If a petition were given to the Governor-general, he handed it to his *aide-de-camp*; and by him it was thrown amongst a mass of papers, and never examined; or if it were examined; it was sent to the party accused; and, of course, though he might be the most guilty man in the world, he made himself out as one of the most innocent of God's creatures. He contended that learning was not patronized—and that no means of education were afforded. He wished to know whether Mr. Stuart (a director) was present; he hoped he was—because he was about to read a passage from a report made by that gentleman, in support of his argument.

The *Chairman*.—"Mr. Stuart has had the misfortune to suffer a domestic calamity—and is, therefore, absent."

Col. L. Stanhope said, he was very sorry for it, because he was a good man, and he respected him the more on account of the manner in which he stated his opinion in the report. At the time he made it, he was judge of the court of Sudder Adawlut. He observed, that the system was calculated "to exclude the natives from every thing that could excite an honest ambition, or that stimulated men to cultivate their faculties. They might accumulate wealth—they might heap up riches—but they were debarred from aspiring to honourable distinction. Such a system has no root in the native soil of the community." Mill could not have spoken more truly or more strongly. What did Sir J. Malcolm say? Why, he told them that the people were at all times ready to rise up and cut the throats of their white tyrants. Now, if such a system as this were not calculated to bring the English Government into contempt amongst the natives of India, there must be something quite peculiar in the composition of their understandings; and certainly very unlike the composition of our own. It was said, that a free press was incompatible with despotism. If they asserted that it was incompatible with a bad despotism, he would agree in that proposition. But he must contend that it was not incompatible with that good system of despotism, which alone his opponents would dare to advocate; and they should have proofs of this fact. Many things were said to be inconsistent with despotism;

despotism; but the incorrectness of the opinion was discovered on examination. Under some despotic governments, there was, in fact, in particular instances, a greater degree of equality than was to be found under governments of a more liberal character. Thus, the law of primogeniture, which created so great a distinction amongst individuals, did not prevail over Asia; and no such thing as hereditary nobility was allowed in Turkey, though it was acknowledged in one of the freest countries in the world—England. Then the power of petitioning (one of the dearest rights of Englishmen) was carried, under a good government in Hindoostan, to a far greater extent than it existed in this country. They would find that the emperor Akbar was in the habit of sitting twice every day in his court, for the purpose of receiving the petitions of the people. The lowest native, the lowest pariah, was allowed to present his petition to the Emperor. But the matter did not end there: he examined those petitions, and decided on them. Now, the right of petition in this country was only valuable from the publicity which attended it through the instrumentality of the press. There would be no use in sending those cartloads of petitions to the House of Commons (where they could not be examined), but for the publicity given to them. It was that which rendered them formidable. Then, with respect to education, was it always neglected under a despotic government? It was one of the great principles of liberty, that the people should be educated; and they had, in this country, their systems of Bell and Lancaster. But those systems had come from Madras, as he could prove to them, only he did not wish to take up their time. And he could inform them of another fact, which was notorious in history, namely, that the whole population of China could read and write. But it was argued that free discussion was inconsistent with despotism. Why, did not freedom of writing prevail under the Roman despotism? Did not Tacitus, taking advantage of that mild despotism, write freely; at a time, too, when one-half of the Roman people were said to be slaves? Then, had they not heard a great deal about one Frederick the Great of Prussia? Were not Voltaire, and all the great wits of that day, publishing, under the nose of despotism at Berlin, works which they dared not publish at Paris? They did not, like Montesquieu and others, bring out their works in Holland or Geneva; no, they published at Berlin under a pure despotism. It might be proper to state, that free principles were to be found in the journals of Berlin at that day; and he could mention many anecdotes to shew that Frederick was friendly to free discussion. Was there,

he would ask, any restrictions on the press, in their slave islands? Nothing of the sort. Even in Hindoostan it was notorious that, under good governments, no restraints of this kind were imposed on writing. So free were those who wrote in their strictures, that the monarchs of Asia were said to have feared the pen of Abul Hasim more than the sword of the mighty Akbar. Hume, that distinguished philosopher, observed, that "the liberty of the press was accompanied with so many advantages and so few disadvantages, that it might be allowed in every country except ecclesiastical countries." This exception, however, did not hold; for it did prevail in this, which was an ecclesiastical country. Now, whom did they suppose he would next quote? He was determined to set his opponents down, and he would quote *John Bull*.—(A laugh).—*The (London) John Bull*, of the 15th of January, 1822, contained the following apparant paradox:—"We have no hesitation in affirming, that an unshackled press is more consistent with a despotic government than with one founded on the most popular principles. In the former, the means of quelling discontent and silencing the murmurs of the people are ready prepared and always at hand, and power is strong to withstand the operation of popular opinion. In the latter, there are laws alone to keep it down; and public opinion, paramount to all laws, is not only influenced by, but receives its tone and direction from, the public press."—(Hear!) Again, in Italy, under the Inquisition the liberty of the press, nay, even its licentiousness, had prevailed. Were not Pagiani and Machiavelli, and Boccaccio, and Padre Sarpi, in the habit of publishing strong observations on law, government, religion, and indeed every thing that was connected with the interests of the community? He should now address himself to the dangers which, it was apprehended, would be generated by a free press. One of the strong holds of those who opposed a free press consisted in this speculative danger. Why, the very same idea formerly prevailed in England, as Mr. Hume informed them; and Lord Stanhope, in his "*Rights of Juries Defended*," stated, that at one period it was determined "that all political works should be examined by the secretary of state, and that other books, such as books on philosophy, mathematics, novels, romances, and love books," (he hoped they would preserve their gravity, for he was now coming to an awful sound) "should be examined by the Archbishop of Canterbury."—(A laugh.) Examining love books was indeed a strange employment for an archbishop. Even so late as the reign of Geo. II., such were the evils expected to flow from the press, that the idea of establishing a general

ral censorship was entertained. The attempt was, however, foiled by Thomson the poet, who published his *Areopagitica*; and Lord Chesterfield, who strenuously opposed the bill introduced for the purpose of placing the theatre under the surveillance of government. Lord Chesterfield, after pointing out the ill effect which such a bill must have on the interests of the stage, "the only place where courtiers could be attacked and satirized," observed, "that the measure would, in his opinion, interfere with the liberty of the press, which would be a long stride towards the destruction of liberty itself." And here he would observe, that Lord Chesterfield did not excel the dandies of the present day in good breeding, more than he surpassed the statesmen of the present time in patriotism. In North America the press had been considered so dangerous, that a considerable time elapsed after the people had gained their independence before they established the liberty of the press. Ever since the Revolution the press had been at liberty, keeping within the bounds of law, to publish what it pleased. Still the government of England had not been brought into hatred and contempt. There had been no risings, no mutinies, no horrible regicides in this country. No—the press remained free, and the constitution of the country was invigorated; whilst surrounding nations, which did not enjoy that blessing, were agitated by political commotions. "Aye," replied gentlemen, "but distant colonies, you know, may demand another system." In answer to that, let them look to the dangers that surrounded the administration of Mr. W. Hastings. He was encompassed by enemies. He was at one time obliged to seek his personal safety in the fortress of Chunar; there were four months' pay due to his soldiers; he was attacked, out-voted, and accused of bribery by his council—nay, he was absolutely deposed by his council; he had, to use a familiar phrase, an ink-stand *shyed* at his head; he was called out and shot at by one of his colleagues;—while in England, Burke, Fox and Sheridan were blazing forth the wrongs of India, and describing his injustice, his extortion, and his openness to bribery. These accusations were published here, and they were re-published in the papers of the presidencies. Thus, by the means of the English and Indian newspapers, they were spread all over the country. He could prove this by the statement of Mr. Dowdeswell, one of their most distinguished servants; a gentleman who had sat in council with Mr. Edmonstone and Mr. Hastings. He stated, that the licentiousness of the press in the time of Warren Hastings was excessive; and he alluded to the prosecution of Mr. Hickey. Now, if ever there were dange-

rous times in India, those were the times of Warren Hastings. But the press was free, and no evil whatsoever arose from that freedom, though the government and the country were greatly agitated. He would next shew that all the evils which afflicted India had occurred under the censorship. He begged of them to look to the reign of Sir G. Barlow, a gentleman famous for his clerkship, and for his attention to paltry economy in the army. What had his conduct effected? why it drove the army into a state of rebellion. Mutiny was the consequence of this censorship—mutiny arising entirely from ignorance of the cause of irritation. Lord Minto was a man of too elevated a mind to put the censorship in force; but Mr. Adam, who had been educated in Sir G. Barlow's principles, who had not been in the country, and who did not understand the feelings or habits of the people (for it was a matter of boast with these bashaws that they never saw a native),—he put the censorship in force, and banished Mr. Buckingham; the only act he believed by which that bashaw was distinguished. He should next advert to Lord Amherst, whose reign had been most disastrous. Let the Court recollect the mutiny at Barrackpore, and the war in the swamps of Arracan, which, as he could prove, had added 20,000,000 sterling to the national debt of England. Let them recollect the delays in the capture of Blurt-pore, and the gross inconsistency of affecting to promote education, whilst he was doing all he could to put down the press. Why, if they wished to put down the press, did they not know that it must be effected by ignorance, not by intelligence? Those who wanted an unmitigated despotism, never could desire the extension of education. He feared, however, that though the natives might learn sufficient to enable them to worship their multifarious and multiform gods, they would never be allowed that for which he was contending, liberal education. All the dangers that were anticipated under the free press system, had actually prevailed under the operation of the censorship, and the government under that censorship was brought into hatred and contempt; whereas the operation of a free press was to remove all that hatred and contempt. The next argument was founded on the licentiousness of a free press. This was a most hacknied objection. In fact, the object of a free press was to put down licentiousness, not to support it. What were the ministerial and opposition journals constantly doing? Why they were occupied in defending themselves, and accusing their opponents of licentiousness; and the result was, that this continual inquiry and animadversion prevented the government from being brought into hatred and contempt, while it enlightened the minds of the

the people. Let them look at the Madras press, under the censorship: nothing could be more licentious. When he was there, one of their servants allowed a paragraph to appear in his paper accusing the Marquis of Hastings of two murders. The paragraph asserted, that the noble Marquis had sent two of his relations out to the West-Indies for the purpose of getting rid of them. This atrocious charge was made under the censorship. Again, let them turn their eyes to Calcutta: the utmost licentiousness prevailed under the censorship system there; and he believed that Dr. Bryce, the Presbyterian clergyman, had been convicted of a libel on Mr. Buckingham. Next, let them look to Bombay. There the government wished to control the press as they did in the other presidencies, but they had failed. In consequence of false colourings of the proceedings in the supreme court having appeared, of which the judges made heavy complaints, the government exerted the power which was vested in their hands, and sent home the nominal editor. Possessing such a power, where was the necessity for a censorship? If they looked to those countries where the press was under a censorship, they would find that every one of them had been revolutionized; while, on the other hand, not one of those in which the press was free had been so convulsed. Let them turn to France, South America, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Russia, Turkey, Java, and even Goa, and they would find that every one of them had been revolutionized; while England, America, and Switzerland were the only countries that had withstood these political shocks. The hurricane had indeed assailed them on all sides, but they had weathered it. Then, if they turned to Persia, Turkey, or Hindoostan, they would see those countries exposed to constant danger. Every page of history shewed that this was the case, and especially the case of Persia. What was the reason of this? It simply was, that under a bad despotism, where freedom of opinion was proscribed, revolt was the only constitutional means of redress. He should now conclude by reading a short extract from a work, written by one of the greatest historians and greatest philanthropists of the day, M. Sismondi. He observed, that England had been promoting the liberty of every part of the world, excepting only her own colonies and dominions; and he went on to say, that "he knew of none of the acts of the British Ministers that gained them so much just popularity as those treaties which they had concluded with the South American States; but the advantages which they had secured for British subjects in Peru and Mexico, they refused to them in Hindoostan. The Englishman, who could not be sent away

from Mexico, or the Rio de la Plata, unless by due course of law, might be banished from Madras or Calcutta without any legal process." There were many other admirable passages in this work, but he would not take up the time of the court by reading them, as he had made so long a speech; at the same time he must say, that it would have been very difficult for him to compress his arguments into a smaller compass. (*Hear, hear!*)

The motion was then read.

Capt. Maxfield said he rose to second the motion. Not having his papers in court, he was not prepared to go so fully into the question as he would otherwise have done; but still he thought the question was of too much importance to be passed over in silence. His plan always had been to require the production of evidence when a point was disputed; because he would at any time rather have plain facts than ingenious arguments; and if his papers were here, he certainly would have advanced evidence to support his view of the case. He had heard the arguments which had taken place with respect to this question, on both sides of the court; and he was not of course unaware of the objections started by the directors, as well as of those advanced by gentlemen before the bar. Great inconvenience, he believed, had accrued to the government from the state of the press in India, when he left it; but it was an inconvenience of its own manufacturing. The government created that inconvenience by identifying itself with the press. Instead of standing aloof, and taking no share in the quarrels of the press, as was the case in this country, it became a party. Some of their officers were connected with newspapers, and wrote in them. In the course of this party conflict, individuals on both sides were personally attacked. The system let loose the worst passions of the human heart, and he believed had been the means of ruining the fortune and blighting the prospect of several gentlemen. Innocent individuals had been suspected of writing some of these obnoxious articles; and, when once suspected, they were deemed ineligible to hold situations. For his own part, he took in the *Calcutta Journal* during the whole time he was in India, and that he believed was an offence. Many persons did not dare to read that publication openly, much less to subscribe to it. Now, when a great government condescended to make itself a party against an individual, whether Mr. Buckingham or any one else, it tended to produce a very different result from that which the stronger party might have contemplated. Though, perhaps, he might not approve of every thing that had appeared in *The Calcutta Journal*, still he thought that from the time when the Mar-

quis of Hastings removed the restrictions, until government became a party against the paper, much benefit accrued to the public from the manner in which the pages of that journal were conducted. He believed that every literary man who heard him would say, that it contained not only valuable information, but the ablest original articles that were to be found in any daily journal in India. It had been said, that so far as the imparting useful information to government was concerned, newspapers were not necessary in India, the government, it was asserted, wanted no such assistance on any occasion. To that position he should give a decided denial. He thought that government might, from time to time, procure a great deal of useful information, if a less restricted system of publication were allowed. Of this truth he could himself adduce more than one instance. During the administration of the Marquis of Hastings, when the expedition was fitting out for the Red Sea, directions were given to the marine force to seize on an island at the entrance of that sea, for the purpose of preventing the pirates from coming out, if they were within it, or of re-entering it should they happen to be absent. Now, if government had possessed that information which he, even when a midshipman, could have given, it never would have issued such orders. It was, indeed, extraordinary that government should have been ignorant of the situation of this island. The passage on one side of it was fifteen miles wide, that on the other only two miles and a half. In consequence of these orders this island was taken possession of, and a road cut through it; but, when all this was done, it was found that it did not command the passage. It was a barren rock, without any sort of accommodation for troops—not even water. The government was put to the expense of having that necessary article conveyed from the Arab shore; and it was kept in a tank cut out of the solid rock. Now, had there been an open press, through which information might have been promulgated, a large sum of money would have been saved on this occasion; troops certainly would not have been sent to this place at an enormous expense. This circumstance he adduced to shew the ignorance in which the government was placed in consequence of the absence of that means, namely, an open press, from which much information might be derived. In the year 1819, he himself received orders from the marine board at Calcutta, signed by all the commissioners in council, directing him to proceed to the Straits of Sunda, to look out for a rock supposed to be there. Now the rock in question happened to be an island of considerable extent and elevation, and was to be found in every old Dutch

chart. A copy of his instructions was forwarded to the Netherlands governor-general at Batavia, to inform him of the object which he (Capt. Maxfield) had in view, lest he should imagine that he had entered those seas for the purpose of fanning the embers of sedition in the Dutch settlements. The Governor-general, however, could not believe that he had been sent out on a wild-goose chase, in search of a rock that did not exist, and supposed that he really was employed to act as a spy. The very orders which he had received confirmed this suspicion, and the salute he fired was not answered by the Dutch. He afterwards understood, from English gentlemen, that he was considered neither more nor less than a spy. Now he contended, that if the government had known whether this was an island or a sunken rock, they would have avoided so unpleasant an occurrence. The Indian government, so far from placing itself in opposition to an individual, should rather have encouraged him, if they found his labours useful. It might be that Mr. Buckingham had made himself obnoxious to those who were in authority: but even so, it was worse than weakness to enter into a contest with him. It was giving him consequence, and, at the same time, lowering themselves in the public estimation; to set themselves in array against an individual, and to endeavour to ruin his paper, was the most impolitic, as well as the most degrading conduct that could be imagined. To shew to what an extent this feeling was carried, he begged leave to state a single fact. Captain Ross, the Company's surveyor-general, who arrived in India just before he (Captain Maxfield) came away, learned on his arrival that a ship had been nearly lost on a rock in the Red Sea. That gentleman expressed to him his surprise that any ignorance should exist with respect to this rock, since it had been officially noticed by him, and he supposed publicity had been given to his description of its situation. He (Captain Maxfield) said, it was very possible that Captain Ross might have sent his communication to the official quarter, but that that was insufficient for his purpose; and he added, that it would be better to give publicity to it through the Calcutta papers, by which means it was likely to fall into the hands of navigators, who would avoid the danger in future. This appeared to him, and he spoke most sincerely, to be the best mode that could be adopted. In consequence, Capt. Ross sent to Mr. Buckingham, requesting that he would give publicity to his communication in *The Calcutta Journal*, which request was complied with. And why did he select Mr. Buckingham's paper? Because it had ten times the circulation of any other journal in India. Shortly after the

the communication appeared in *The Calcutta Journal*, Captain Ross received a message from the chief secretary to government, who expressed to him the extreme displeasure of the government at his having inserted the article in Mr. Buckingham's journal. Good God! were communications of this nature to be confined to papers that had no circulation, and to be kept out of those through which publicity was sure to be effected? Capt. Ross, in consequence of this transaction, found it necessary to apologize to the government. Now he left the court to judge whether this was dignified conduct? Was it likely that an officer, who had laboured hard in the Company's service for years, could have dreamt of giving offence by so trifling a proceeding? He could have had no feelings of the kind; and, in his opinion, the proceeding on this occasion was unjust, undignified, and uncalled-for. Capt. Ross apologized for what he had done; but still he felt that he had placed himself in considerable jeopardy by inserting the notice in that particular paper. This was a good anecdote to shew the mood and temper in which the government were acting towards the press in Calcutta. The gallant Capt. here referred to the existence of a fortification, mounting 100 pieces of artillery (in the possession of a foreign power), which was within sound of the Company's own guns, and of which he believed the government knew very little. [We could not catch the name of the place alluded to, nor what part of the Company's territories it adjoined.] The government might, however, have had the means of acquiring information on this point, if permission had been given to make communications on such subjects in the public papers. Many explanations, and perhaps exposures, would, he felt assured, be made by individuals, if there were less restraint on the Indian press. In his opinion, the best of men, possessing power, were apt to exercise it too often, and to abuse it. Now the best possible check to that evil was, to let the individual know, that the manner in which he exercised the power with which he was invested was likely to be made public, and that the improper exercise of it, when known, would certainly be corrected; that alone was a sufficient reason for restraining the press as little as possible. This would appear the more necessary, when they considered what very young men were appointed judges, and raised to other high and important situations. In saying this, he meant not to cast a reflection on those individuals; they were, he believed, very honourable men, and no person could respect them more than he did—no person thought more highly of their abilities. But, when he recollected the distance they were removed from the seat of govern-

ment, when he considered that they were surrounded by crafty native officers, and that they had to administer justice to little short of 100,000,000 of persons, too much publicity could not, in his opinion, be given to the proceedings of the courts over which they presided.—(*Hear, hear!*) He thought it was a misplaced delicacy, in either the Court of Directors or Proprietors, or in the Company at large, to feel any concern for individuals, be their rank what it might, when any impropriety of conduct in their official situations deserved public notice. Abuses ought to be exposed wherever they were, and this would be most effectually done by the vigilance of the press. It would, perhaps, be argued, that there might be secrets in the revenue department which it would not be desirable to let out. He, however, was of opinion, that there were circumstances in that department which should be laid open; and, though the press was muzzled, he would bring them into that court. He meant to do so from the purest motive—that of remedying the evil; and he believed that he should have the aid of the Chairman, and that of many honourable proprietors, when he introduced the subject. He could not, however, for want of documents, take up that question at present; and the same objection would apply to his giving an unfinished lecture on the state of the police. This was a subject of great magnitude, and there were great difficulties attending it. To remove all the evils connected with it would be a work of very considerable labour; but, at the same time, a work of such moment, that he thought no time ought to be lost in effecting it. Gentlemen might say, that if the press in India were unfettered, it might perhaps debate on the utility of the Company itself. But this would be done by the press in this country; and those strictures would go out to India. If then they prevented observations of this kind from being made in that country, it was only destroying a small portion of those powerful engines, whilst they left 1,000 of them, over which they could not have any control, unmuzzled. Under the present system, he must say, that the abominable system of idolatry at Juggernaut was not repressed but encouraged; he could prove that it was nurtured and fostered by the Company; through their means the idol was clothed in brocade and broadcloth.—(*Hear!*) He wished, in his heart, that if they could not put down, they at least had no hand in propagating such a system of idolatry; and he was sure that it would die a natural death but for the fostering care of the Company. An hon. proprietor inquired whether the Company derived any revenue from it. He believed that they derived from it about £10,000 *per annum*; but, at the same

same time, they lost in human life about £50,000 *per annum*. It might be said that the Mahometan government allowed the same thing; but even if this were admitted, it must also be admitted that they sent out no pilgrim-hunters; whilst the Company had several hundred of persons, who spread themselves over the country to bring the pilgrims to the shrine of the idol. On a future day he meant to notice this subject more particularly, and to bring the temple forth in all its deformity. Another argument of the opponents of the press was, that it would excite discontent, and, in fact, carry rebellion from one end of the country to the other. Now assuming that the diffusion of intelligence would have a baneful effect, this assertion rested on the supposition that all their native subjects read the newspapers; now the fact was, that a very few, not a ten-thousandth part of them did so: besides, most of them owed every thing they had to government, and their wish was to stand well in the estimation of their rulers. In his opinion, the diffusion of knowledge amongst the natives would be productive of much advantage. He recollected a case which directly proved this point. It occurred in conversing with an intelligent native, on the occasion of an European having been, from want of evidence, or some technical flaw in the indictment, acquitted of a capital offence; there was, however, no moral doubt of his guilt. He (Capt. Maxfield) wished to impress on the mind of the native, that justice, strictly speaking, had been done; and that if the European had been convicted of killing a native he would have been hanged. To this he replied, "Surely no; they never will hang a European for killing a native." Now, he thought that if there had been a more general access to newspapers, the native could not have entertained so erroneous an opinion. He conceived that the disturbances which had occurred at Benares and at Barrackpore might have been avoided if the press had been a little less restricted. The commotion at Benares was very near placing their government in a most awkward situation. The gallantry of a corps of about 200 men saved their empire from a great convulsion, at least, if not from utter ruin. But how much better would it be if government, through the medium of the press, were made acquainted with the existence of dislike and ill-feeling, and the circumstances out of which it arose. When individuals misconducted themselves in their situations, was it not a principle of sound policy that their conduct should be known; and yet how could government, in many instances, ascertain the fact except by means of the public papers? He thought that the Marquis of Hastings him-

self was much benefited by those publications. In one instance, the *Calcutta Journal* exposed the pluralities held by a gentleman, who had undertaken to perform duties the labours of which were more than any human being could undergo. This was a service which the press alone could execute. He would ask, was not a matter like this a fair subject for comment? No remark had been made on the government; but a just intimation was given of the existence of the fact. He would now adduce another reason why the freedom of the press (to a certain extent) would be useful. They must be aware that an immense number of English gentlemen went out to India as free-mariners—they went into the interior of the country, and some of them he believed did a good deal of mischief. He certainly was not about to advocate the system of colonization; because, in his opinion, their first duty was to protect the natives of India, and he feared that colonization would lead to oppression. It was however a fact, that in India a number of Europeans who were not armed with legal authority, assumed a great deal of power. Now the natives could not discriminate between those who were, and those who were not clothed with legal power; but through the newspapers they would soon ascertain the difference. He once knew a man who presided in what he called a court, and absolutely decided cases, who was not in the Company's service at all. If the press were not so much restricted, this could not have happened. He also recollected an instance where an European settled himself as a sort of sutler near one of their ports, and soon determined to monopolize to himself the right of supplying vessels with provisions. It might be asked, how could he manage this? did not the natives say, you have no right to this monopoly? The fact was, they did not know but that his pretended authority was a just one; and they knew not the mode of ascertaining the fact. The consequence was, that they supplied him with bullocks, &c. at fifty per cent. less than he charged; and he most magnanimously pocketed the affront. —(Laugh.) It was unnecessary to say that the government did not countenance such proceedings: the fact was, they knew nothing about them; and they would always continue until the easy means of detecting them were afforded. The administration of the law was, he must observe, extremely unsatisfactory. Was it not most tantalizing, when the expenses attending it were so great, to tell a poor man, without a rupee in his pocket, that the courts were open to him? He recollected persons petitioning some of their courts for a piece of stamped paper on which they wanted to state their particular grievances. They could not proceed unless their statement

was on a stamp, and they had not the money to pay for it. Was not this a denial of justice? Now, if the press were not muzzled, such an abuse as this could not remain unknown. A writer of his own had come to him, and begged for a piece of stamped paper, on which he wanted to write a petition for another person. The request was so extraordinary, that he at first supposed the man meant to satirize the government, and he questioned him sharply. The man said, "No, Sir, I mean nothing of the kind. The person who has applied to me cannot proceed without the stamp, and he has no money to purchase it." This point, he thought, would be conceded to him by all—namely, that the three presidencies should be subjected to the same restrictions and regulations. Let it be observed, that he did not wish for the unrestrained freedom of the press; but he was certainly anxious for that degree of freedom which would enable individuals to point out abuses, for the purpose of their correction. One thing he would most strenuously ask for, which was, that they would at least permit the decisions in the zillah courts to be published in the newspapers of the different presidencies. This permission would go farther towards representing injustice than any other mode which could be devised.

Dr. Gilchrist said, his gallant friend had introduced this subject so eloquently, so distinctly, and at such a length, as to render a long speech, on his part, quite unnecessary. The motion had also been seconded, in, he must say, the most noble manner, by his hon. friend, Capt. Maxfield, who told them his story (certainly not a short one) in a very clear manner. He wished also to add his testimony to that which had already been given in favour of a free press. Not many days ago, he had had an opportunity of reading a *Gazette* published at the free port or island of Singapore. There was, in that *Gazette*, a paragraph, which appeared to him to be most extraordinary, considering the place it came from, and the reasoning which it contained. The paragraph was to this effect:—"It is said that the Dutch government, in consequence of insurrections and disturbances in their settlements, have absolutely come to the resolution of establishing a free press, and thus putting it in their power to know what is going on in the distant provinces, to learn the sentiments of the natives, and to take measures to prevent mischief, instead of punishing the perpetrators of it, after it has occurred." He would now advert to an old story, connected with Calcutta, which related both to himself and to the Marquis Wellesley. He must first, however, observe, that he owed every thing he possessed to that great man. Had it not been for that noble-minded individual, he

might have died in prison. He was most grateful for his kindness; but his gratitude was that of a man, not of a spaniel. He would not, because he received benefits, throw a veil over actions of which he disapproved. He would not do so for any mortal alive. Much had been said, with respect to the liberty of the press in this country. Now, he would contend, that there was no such thing as a free press in existence. All who wrote for the press were shackled, they were amenable to the laws of the country; and why, he would ask, should not the people of India be placed precisely in the same situation? Mr. Hickey was condemned for publishing a libel against Warren Hastings. The law officers did their duty; and no rebellion occurred either in consequence of the libel, or of the proceedings of government. At a later period, when he was in the service of the Company, he had himself a paper, which existed at the present time. He meant the *Hurkaru*, of which he was the editor. A very extraordinary incident occurred at that time in England; and, of course, it went out to India in all the British papers. He thought that this was a fine opportunity to shew to their native subjects, that no distance of time, no exaltation of place, could screen a man from the penalty which his injustice had incurred. They must all, he believed, recollect the story of Governor Wall, which had just reached India at the time of which he was speaking. About twenty years before, that individual had been commander of some place on the coast of Africa. He appeared to have been a dirty jobber in the stores intended for the men under his command. They naturally felt sore at seeing the money which belonged to them put into the pocket of the governor, and the consequence was, that a mutiny took place. A court-martial (he believed a drum-head court-martial) was held, and a number of the men were ordered to be flogged. If he recollected rightly, some of them were either flogged to death, or were within an inch of perishing under the lash; and one man died of the injuries he had received. Twenty years after this transaction, a person went into a barber's shop, in London, to be shaved. The barber, who, like most people of his profession, was rather loquacious, said to his customer, pointing to a child, "Do you see that little boy? he is the son of the man who was flogged to death by Colonel Wall." From this apparently trivial incident, the circumstance was bruited abroad, and he need scarcely add, that trial, sentence, and execution, followed. Yes, twenty years after the commission of the foul deed, a British governor was ignominiously hanged. He (Dr. Gilchrist) said at the time, "Here is an excellent moral lesson to read to any government

vernment or to any people;" and he put the whole story into his paper, making one or two comments on it. He observed, how gratifying it was to reflect on the advantages which men enjoyed in living under the British constitution. He pointed out the case of Governor Wall as an instance where justice was done on an individual, notwithstanding the rank he held; and he went on to state, that if a governor in India behaved in a despotic manner, either to Natives or Europeans, he would be brought to justice in England before he went to his long home. He did not conceive that this paragraph alluded to the Marquis Wellesley; certainly he had no intention of making any such allusion. It was, however, sent to the government house, as the censorship was then in being; and, when the sheet was returned the next morning, he found that the whole was a blank—an *hiatus*—a pen had been scratched over the entire article. What did he do when he found this immense gap in his paper? He was one of those who took time by the forelock; and, as he anticipated that such an accident might happen, he was prepared for it. He had something ready to fill up the vacant space. Whether it was a novel or a romance, or an article in praise of all former governors, he could not tell; but in it went, and all went on as if nothing had happened.—(A laugh.)—Now was this a situation in which British subjects, natives or otherwise, were to be placed? Were they not to be allowed to state the fact that offenders, however lofty their situation, were liable to punishment for their atrocious acts? He was not the advocate for an unfettered press in India; but he thought it ought to be allowed there as here, where they had the provisions of the six acts hanging over their heads.

The *Chairman*.—"The motion before the Court has for its professed object 'to implore the Court of Directors not to extend this base monopoly' (meaning certain regulations of the press) 'over the mind—this curse—to Bombay.' Now, if this were the sole object of the gallant colonel, I think he ought to have laid some proof before the Court, to shew that the Directors had such a measure in contemplation. But I confess that I have no knowledge myself, nor even a suspicion that the Court of Directors harbour any such intention; and this being the case, I think it quite useless to 'implore the Court' not to do that which they have no intention whatever of doing.—(Hear!) I shall therefore, as one reason for combatting this motion with a negative, declare that it is perfectly unnecessary. It has certainly been given to the gallant mover and second, and also to the learned Doctor, an opportunity of dilating very much on a variety of cases which they consider as abuses in

our system, and which, in their opinion, a free press would have afforded the adequate means of preventing. Now I am not disposed to question the great utility and benefit of the press, when conducted with decency and discretion: but the hon. proprietors themselves have admitted that an entirely unrestrained press is not a desirable thing in India.—[Col. Stanhope. "No, no!"] What are the modes by which the press has been kept within certain bounds? The censorship was the first check; and I beg leave to state that the censorship was imposed on the press of India not from any political feeling, but at a period of great and material hazard to the security of our empire.—(Hear!) At that time the horrid massacre of Mr. Cherry at Benares had recently occurred; and there were various articles and observations introduced into the newspapers, with the view of shewing how easy it would be for the natives, if they became dissatisfied with the British government to massacre all the Europeans in India.—(Hear!) It was the publication of such opinions as these which were likely to promote such enormities, and to shake the stability of our power in India at that particular period, that induced the Marquis Wellesley to impose the censorship on the press. That censorship remained in force for a considerable number of years; and I do not mean to say that, in the exercise of the power with which the secretary of government was invested as censor, he might not have sometimes used it in a way that was not perfectly judicious. The censorship was abolished by the Marquis of Hastings; and in lieu of that, after the signal disappointment of the expectation of a voluntary observance of the rules promulgated by Lord Hastings for the government of editors of newspapers) the licensing system had been established; and I should be glad to know how we can put the press on a restricted footing but by one or other of these means."

Col. L. Stanhope.—"No person contends for that. Such a thing as an unrestricted press never prevailed in any country."

The *Chairman*.—"I am not arguing against the opinions of the gallant officer: I am arguing against the opinions of those who seconded and supported this motion, and who notwithstanding admit that an unrestrained press is not desirable in India. It would indeed be most dangerous if no restraint of any kind were imposed by government on the press. I am decidedly of opinion that a government like that of India is incompatible with a free and unrestricted press, (Hear!) and that before we can trust entirely to the safeguard of the law, as administered and applied in this country, we must assimilate the whole frame of the Indian and English governments to each

each other. If it were proposed to establish a free press in Turkey, I think all men who heard of such a proposition would say with one accord that the experiment was absurd, because a free press and a despotic government could not exist together. The argument will apply as well in the one case as in the other; though I am far from meaning to say that the Indian government is of the same despotic character as the Turkish government, yet is it full as remote from a representative government like England. It is upon these grounds, and because I see no necessity for 'imploping' the court not to do that which it has no intention of doing, and which it has not now in its contemplation; that I consider it a fair and proper proceeding to meet this motion with a direct negative. With respect to the licensing of the press at Bombay, that power which alone is competent to give effect to the rule and regulation proposed, has declared that it is not expedient to sanction it. That question is therefore completely disposed of; I however do not confess I view the subject in the same light as to its inexpediency, for I am of opinion with some other gentlemen, that it is much to be regretted that the same system is not suffered to remain in force in all our settlements, as has been established in Bengal.

—(Hear!) The rules and regulations passed there were proposed by the Government and sanctioned by the Supreme Court. They have been appealed against in this country, and after the most solemn argument, the high Court of Appeal, viz. the King in Council, had declared for their legality. This being the case—the subject having been so calmly and maturely considered—it certainly appears to me that this is no good reason for not establishing the same regulation at all the presidencies; and I regret that it is not so. Such however is the state of the case, and as such we must be content to deal with it. The press at Bombay must remain as it is—inasmuch as the competent authorities will not give effect to those regulations. There the matter rests; and therefore, as I am quite satisfied that there is not and cannot be any necessity for imploring the Court of Directors not to do that which they did not intend to do, I shall meet this motion with a negative.—(Hear!)

Col. L. Stanhope meant to reply very briefly to the observations of the hon. Chairman; but in the first place he begged pardon for having interrupted him. The hon. Chairman's argument proceeded on a false foundation. He seemed to think that a call was made for the entire and unrestricted liberty of the press. Now what was meant by an unrestricted press, or by unrestricted liberty? There could in civilized society be no such thing. All liberty was restricted by law, and neither

he nor any one else ever argued in favour of the establishment of such a free press as the hon. Chairman contemplated, in this country, much less in Hindoostan. The hon. Chairman stated that the censorship was established in consequence of the horrid murder of Mr. Cherry. It was a most extraordinary thing to say, that because an individual was murdered it was deemed proper to establish a censorship.

The *Chairman*.—"I did not state any such thing. I said that the censorship was established, not in consequence of that murder, but in consequence of mischievous observations and statements which appeared in the newspapers afterwards." (Hear, hear!)

Col. L. Stanhope.—"What was the nature of those statements? The hon. Chairman had not proved that there was any treason in them. Suppose when Mr. Perceval was murdered, that any person, in addition to a statement of the fact, had said, the people are ready to rise and put down their oppressors, would that be a fair reason for placing restrictions on the press? If it were, then a free press could never exist in any part of the world; because there was no country in which, from time to time, some of these horrid monstrosities would not occur. He believed the fact was, that the censorship was imposed in consequence of the remarks made by Dr. Maclean; but he would not insist on that point; because the hon. Chairman had probably more information on the subject than he possessed. The hon. Chairman contended that a free press could not be suffered in India. And why? because it was a despotic government. Now, he contended, that though a free press could not exist under what he called a bad despotism, it was not incompatible with a mild and good one. This he had proved from history. Such was the fact with respect to Hindoostan, to Prussia under Frederick the Great, and to Italy under the inquisition; and, therefore, it appeared to him, that the argument of the hon. Chairman fell entirely to the ground."

The question was then put, and the motion was negatived by a very great majority.

WAR BETWEEN RUSSIA AND PERSIA.

The *Chairman*.—"When the gallant Colonel (Stanhope), gave notice of his intention to submit a motion to the court, connected with the dispute between Russia and Persia; I took the liberty of appealing to him as to the expediency of entertaining a question of so very delicate a nature, at a time when this country was employed in negotiations on the subject. The gallant colonel received my suggestion with courtesy, and said, that he would take time to consider whether he would persevere in his motion. I have now to

request that he will signify his determination."

Colonel *L. Stanhope*.—"Let the motion be read; and I will then state my intention."

The motion was then read as follows:

"1. That England, by the treaty of Gulistan, and by abandoning the wise measures of Sir J. Malcolm, in training a portion of Persia's troops to discipline, and placing her fortresses and passes in a state of defence, has laid that country open to the all-powerful legions of Russia.

"2. That Constantinople, on the Asiatic and defenceless side, is thereby endangered; and British India, unsupported by the talents, the loyalty, and the valour of colonists, and having no public, could with difficulty oppose with her valiant sepoys the simultaneous, persevering, and widespread attack of a swarm of Cossacks, Persians, Sieks, Malurattas, and Burmese, backed by a small corps of infantry and artillery, which would find magazines, fortresses, cannon, and gold on the field of their exploits.

"3. That though the conquests of Russia, from the germ of improvement contained in her institutions, might be advantageous to the Asiatic world in its present backward and stationary condition; yet, to civilized Europe it would prove fatal, because her governments and society would sink to a level with the preponderating power, and insure to her a dark futurity.

"4. That under these circumstances this Court of Proprietors earnestly recommends the Court of Directors to consult his Majesty's enlightened Ministers as to the military and diplomatic course which, in concert with France and Austria, they should pursue to check the march into Persia of the hardy soldiers of the good and active autocrat Nicholas."

Col. *L. Stanhope*.—"I have every disposition to listen with courtesy to any suggestion that falls from the chair; but I cannot, unless good reasons are adduced, consent to withdraw a motion on the mere plea of courtesy. Still, however, considering the high character of Mr. Canning, and his perfect knowledge of foreign diplomacy; and considering also the great talents of my friend Mr. M. Kinneir, the British envoy at the Persian court; I shall, believing the interests of the country and of the Company to be in the best hands, withdraw my motion with great pleasure." (*Hear!*)

The *Chairman*.—"I return thanks to the gallant Col. for the courtesy which he has shewn on this occasion, and I beg leave to assure him, that I would not have made this suggestion if I did not feel the same degree of confidence as the gallant Col. has expressed in that very able minister, Mr. Canning. Whatever it may be neces-

sary to do will be effected much better by his Majesty's government than by a public discussion in this court."—(*Hear!*)

BURNING OF HINDOO WIDOWS.

Mr. *Poynder* rose, and commenced a speech upon this subject, which was interrupted by the adjournment of the question till Wednesday, March 28; the lateness of which period prevents our giving a full report of the debates on this question; we therefore subjoin merely an outline of this debate, deferring a complete and connected report (as the fairest course) till next month.

The hon. proprietor concluded by moving—"That this court, taking into consideration the continuance of human sacrifices in India, is of opinion that, in the case of all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life, it is the duty of a paternal government to interpose for their prevention; and therefore recommends to the Honourable Court of Directors to transmit such instructions to India as that court may deem most expedient for accomplishing this object, consistent with all practicable attention to the feelings of the natives."

The motion was seconded by Sir C. Forbes.

The Hon. Col. *Stanhope* moved an amendment as follows:—"That in the opinion of this court, though little has been done to reform the Hindoo superstition, or to convert the natives to Christianity, the government of British India has at all times acted upon the philosophical principles of unlimited toleration, and has thereby secured the good-will of its subjects;

"That the inhuman custom of burning Hindoo widows cannot be prevented by prohibitory edicts, *id est*, by force, without exciting the discontent of millions, and soon or late, provoking religious wars, and ultimately increasing these frightful sacrifices; and

"That the only safe means of promoting among the Hindoos the pure worship of God, and of preventing the burning of widows, the crushing of victims at Jugger-naut, and the drowning of sick persons in the Ganges, &c. &c., is to be found in virtuous education and free discussion, as practised under the administration of the Marquess of Hastings."

The amendment was seconded by General Thornton.

The *Chairman*, conceiving the motion unnecessary, as it only called upon the Court of Directors to do that which they were in the habit of doing, moved the following amendment:—"That whilst this Court deeply deplores the existence of Suttees and other rites, involving the sacrifice of human life in India, it reposes the fullest

fullest confidence in the anxious disposition of the local governments to give effect to the instructions of the Court of Directors, by adopting, from time to time, such measures as may be deemed necessary, for effectually and safely accomplishing the abolition of those practices.

"That this Court firmly relies on the earnest solicitude of the Court of Directors to follow up so desirable an object,

with a due regard to the feelings and prejudices of the natives of India."

The *Chairman*, however, subsequently withdrew his amendment, under an understanding that the original motion did not imply that force should be employed to abolish the *Suttee* custom; and the original motion was carried with only four or five dissentient voices, amongst which was that of Mr. Campbell, the Director.

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS, March 27.

Cape of Good Hope.—Lord Kenyon presented a petition from Mr. Wm. Parker, one of the heads of settlers at the Cape of Good Hope, complaining of the conduct of Col. Bird, the late secretary to the colony; and stating that he (the petitioner) had gone out in 1820, at the head of 280 men, and had been obliged to return home a ruined man, with the loss of £3,000.

Earl Bathurst said, that Mr. Parker had already made several representations against the government of the Cape of Good Hope, and manifold allegations against Col. Bird. It appeared, however, that from the moment of his (Mr. P.'s) arrival at the colony, he had commenced commenting upon the government, and had succeeded in making himself disagreeable to the different colonial officers. The representations of the petitioner had been forwarded to the Commission of Inquiry; the commissioners had made their report, and they had reported that the allegations brought against Col. Bird were without foundation. There was another complaint against the government, which had also been the subject of inquiry with the commissioners, and appeared in their report, under the head "State of Agriculture at the Cape." The fact was, as appeared in the report, that all that could be made of this complaint was, that it had always been the policy of that government, since 1772, to discourage the intercourse between the Caffres and the town, and that, in carrying this policy into execution, it had been found necessary to issue military orders.

The Earl of Caledon defended Col. Bird; his Lordship thought the petition ought to be rejected.

The Earl of Rosslyn and the Marquess of Lansdowne were of the same opinion. Petition rejected.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Feb. 26.

Mr. J. Wilson presented a petition from the city of York, praying that the House

would take measures to put a stop to the custom of burning widows in India.

March 21.

Sir G. H. Smyth presented a petition from Colchester against the burning of widows in India.

Mr. Hart Davis presented a petition from the merchants of Bristol, praying that the trade to the East-Indies might be thrown open.—Ordered to be printed.

March 22.

Mutiny at Barrackpore.—Mr. Hume began his motion on this subject with detailing the circumstances of the transaction, which have been too often before our readers to require repetition. After a relation of the particulars of the affair, the hon. member proceeded to say, that he admitted that when a mutiny broke out in a regiment, it was necessary to put it down forthwith; he did not, therefore, complain of the putting down this mutiny, but of the particular manner in which it was put down. He contended that if the commander-in-chief had informed the mutineers of the immense force which he had brought with him from Calcutta, no persons would have lost their lives, except such mutineers as he might have ordered for execution, in order to intimidate those who survived them. As a proof that he was correct in this notion, he referred to the notorious fact that these troops had never either loaded or fired a musket, or exhibited the slightest disposition to resist. He had heard that 400 or 500 valuable soldiers had lost their lives in that melancholy carnage, and he believed that he might say without the slightest exaggeration, that full 300 men had perished in it. A great degree of uncertainty prevailed as to the number of men killed, owing to the strict manner in which the Indian press had been prohibited from taking any notice of the transaction. The hon. member here read a circular letter, which was sent by the government to the editors of the different papers in India, forbidding them to mention any fact, or to make any comment upon any fact, connected with the mutiny

mutiny at Barrackpore, until an official account of it had been published by government. In consequence of that circular, all mention of it in the Indian journals was suppressed; and therefore it was the more necessary that the country should receive some official information respecting it from those who were competent to afford it. The hon. member then adverted to the courts-martial subsequently held on the mutineers and to the dismissal of the native officers by the general order of the 4th November. He believed that that order would have had an effect upon the native army, of which it would have been impossible to foresee the consequences, had not events taken a favourable turn for British interests, both in the west of India and elsewhere. He contended that the loss of life which had taken place at Barrackpore in the first instance, and the indiscriminate punishment of the innocent and guilty which had followed in the next, rendered an inquiry into the whole transaction absolutely necessary. He was happy to find that the mode in which the native troops had been treated, had not met the approbation of either the Court of Directors or the Board of Control. Report said, that in consequence of orders which had been sent from this country, the Brahmins, who had been sentenced to hard labour on the roads, had been all pardoned. This showed that the government at home was of opinion that blame attached to some one or other of the authorities abroad. In the course of his speech, the hon. member said he would state why he believed the commander-in-chief to be the party responsible for this lamentable massacre. He formerly thought that Lord Amherst, the governor-general, was the responsible party; but he now held in his hands a letter from Captain Amherst to a Mr. Trower, which induced him to change that opinion. In that letter Captain Amherst stated that his father (Lord Amherst) had not sent home the report of the military inquiry on the mutiny at Barrackpore out of motives of delicacy to Sir E. Paget, who, if the matter had come before the council, must have been made to join in a censure upon himself. It did not appear to him that the fault was with the Governor-general, but with the commander-in-chief, Sir E. Paget, who with the best feeling possible might have been misled by those from whom he received his information. He concluded by moving for "a copy of a report from Sir E. Paget to the Governor-general respecting the mutiny at Barrackpore, and the measures taken to suppress it; as also a copy of the general orders of the 4th of November, regarding the mutiny; as also an account of the number of mutineers tried, sentenced, and executed, and of the number whose sentence had been commuted to

labour on the roads: as also a copy of the report made by a Court of Inquiry, which sat in November, 1824, respecting this mutiny, together with a copy of any despatch concerning the orders of the Court of Directors to Bengal, respecting the mutineers placed on the roads to labour, and respecting the native non-commissioned officers dismissed by the order of 4th November."

Mr. C. W. W. Wynne observed, that the hon. member was not quite correct in his opinion as to the cause of the mutiny. It arose, in a great measure, from the dislike which the troops had to march against the Burmese, whom they believed to be more than mortal. There was no ground of complaint as to any want of proper accommodation, since every possible exertion had been made to furnish them with the usual conveniences, and, in fact, 100 bullocks were actually in the lines of the regiment (47th); that was allowing ten bullocks to each company. The hon. member had said, that if the officers had gone amongst them and asked what were their grievances, and informed them that they should have an inquiry, there would have been no mutiny—that very thing was done, and the very day before the mutiny broke out, a court of inquiry was ordered, and they were invited to send delegates to appear before it; and when they expressed a suspicion as to the safety of such delegates if they should be sent, Colonel Cartwright offered to remain with them as hostage. The hon. member had represented this mutiny as one of the mildest nature, and that the troops had merely refused to march; but the mutiny was much more alarming; the troops not only violently carried away their colours, but forcibly drove their officers from the parade. No means were left untried to make the insurgents fully sensible of their danger; indeed, delegates from them were actually conducted through the lines, and shown the extent of the force which was prepared to act against them. Could any one say how far such a mutiny, if it had been allowed to go on, might have spread? The hon. member had not made sufficient allowance for the difficult situation of the commander-in-chief. Indeed, had that gallant officer acted otherwise, he might have had to answer for endangering the peace of the country; and as to the employment of artillery, it was much the most proper and judicious course of suppressing the mutiny; nor was the conduct of the mutineers so patient as it had been represented. When the Royals were advancing, the mutineers fired upon them. The hon. member had been much misinformed as to the extent of the time taken up in suppressing the mutiny. The fact was, that after half an hour not a shot was fired. The loss also had been greatly exaggerated;

aggregated; it did not in reality exceed 160 or 180. The report of the Court of Inquiry related to various other matters besides the mutiny, which were not yet in a sufficiently forward state to make public, and the publishing them at present might only have the effect of exciting expectations which could not be gratified. From that report, however, it appeared that the mutineers had been tried, not by an European court-martial, but by one composed of native officers; that 140 of them had been capitally convicted; it was, therefore, the opinion of the natives that the troops had not been driven by necessity to mutiny. Of the 140 convicted, only 12 had been executed; the remainder had been sentenced to work in irons on the roads, which punishment was by no means an unusual punishment, and had been undergone by many persons of high caste; and indeed the very first proper opportunity had been seized to remit the punishment of these last-mentioned persons, not merely in compliance with the orders which had been sent out from the government here, for such remission had been directed before those orders had arrived. As to the dismissal of the officers, it was somewhat difficult to imagine that this mutiny could have proceeded so far, and spread through three regiments, without the officers having heard something of it; but if it had done so, it at any rate evinced that the officers must have been most culpably negligent and inattentive to what was going on amongst the troops under their command, and that confidence could not safely be reposed in them. As to the circular which had been sent to the newspaper editors in India, he considered it a highly proper one—for every one must be aware of the degree in which reports are sometimes exaggerated, and it might have happened that some one concerned in exciting the mutiny might have furnished a highly-coloured report of the manner in which it had originated, and been suppressed, and which might have done incalculable mischief in that country. He could not see what good consequence would result from reviving discussion upon this subject.—*(Cheers.)* The stain which the transaction in question had cast upon the character of the native troops, had already been removed by their subsequent good conduct. They were now perfectly contented; as a proof of which he might state, that a great number of regiments had voluntarily altered the terms of their engagement, in order to have an opportunity of extending their services beyond the Bengal territories. This was a case in which the executive government had a right to expect that a certain degree of confidence should be reposed in it.—*(Hear!)* From the reasons which he had before stated, he considered it inexpedient to produce the

report of the Committee of Inquiry. All the other documents, consisting of the orders of government, had been published in the newspapers, and were matters of public notoriety. On these grounds he felt it his duty to oppose the motion.—*(Hear, hear!)*

Sir C. Forbes supported the motion, and declared that as long as he held a seat in the house he would not cease to urge inquiry into this subject.

Mr. Hart Davis apprehended great mischief from this attempt to rip up the subject of the mutiny. He defended the conduct of Sir E. Paget, and asked how the hon. member (Mr. Hume) would like the same sort of scrutiny which he employed upon the political conduct of others, to be applied to his own? How would he like an inquiry into the management of the Greek war? *(Loud cheers.)* How would his financial policy bear the test? *(Laughter, and cries of "Hear, hear!")*

Col. Davis bore testimony to the talents and character of Sir E. Paget, but thought an inquiry necessary to his justification.

Sir H. Vivian contended that the course pursued by Sir E. Paget was perfectly correct and judicious; and though he was quite sure that officer desired to have his conduct inquired into, he (Sir H. V.) thought that it was highly inexpedient to revive such a topic after it had lain dormant for two years.

Colonel Lushington observed that the fact of a most serious and dangerous mutiny having existed in the native regiments at Barrackpore justified Sir Edward Paget in what he did; and so far from thinking him to blame, he considered him entitled to great praise, for the promptitude with which he adopted, and the firmness with which he carried into execution the necessary measures for effectually subduing the mutiny. He (Col. L.) lamented as much as any man the number of lives that were lost, but no one was to blame but the Sepoys themselves, by their pertinacity. He regretted that such severe and unwarrantable epithets, as "massacre" and "murder" should have been applied to these transactions, and he was fully persuaded if those that thought them so, could look at them with a military eye, they would greatly change their opinion, without in the least compromising their humanity. With regard to the dismissal of the native officers, when it was recollected they all rose from the ranks, and except the military rank their commission gave them, they had no superior station in society above the Sepoys with whom they were frequently connected, it was impossible that, if they did their duty, mutinous proceedings could ever reach beyond a momentary ebullition. He said this from a long and intimate acquaintance with the native army. He could also say commu-
tation

tation of punishment was by no means unusual. Surely it would be unjust and impolitic to have different degrees and modes of punishment for the same offence depending upon the caste of the Sepoy ; but the fact was, no such principle was acknowledged, and the articles of war for the native army made no distinction of that nature. If the hon. member who brought forward this motion, could have satisfied the house that since the mutiny the spirit of discontent had increased, and that the character of the government had grown into disrepute with the native population, then there would have existed grounds for the motion. But the very reverse was the case. The Bengal army was never in a higher state of discipline than at present.—(Hear, hear !) The very regiments that were concerned in the mutiny had effectually redeemed their character by their good conduct during the Burmese war. Colours had been given, by orders of the supreme government, to the regiment that had lost them during the mutiny, for their gallant conduct in Arracan. Where, therefore, could the necessity of renewing this painful enquiry ? The errors and abuses that may have existed, will be rectified by the executive government, and in their hands these papers ought to remain, the publication of which from the nature of the enquiry, would create heart-burnings and jealousies amongst the officers, and do incalculable mischief.

Sir Joseph Yorke said, he had not heard any attack upon Sir E. Paget, who had only acted as every gallant officer would have acted under similar circumstances. The question was, whether certain papers should be laid upon the table : this was refused, because it was said that they would implicate other persons. He would ask what sort of hold they could have in India, when they were told that they must not look at this question ? If the government of India exercised more power than was necessary for good government and consistent with freedom, he hoped that the empire would be taken out of the hands in which it was placed in Leadenhall-street, and vested where it ought to be.

Mr. Forbes spoke in favour of the motion, and Sir J. Beresford against it.

On a division the numbers were, ayes 44 ; noes 176 ;—majority against the motion 132.

March 26.

Mr. T. F. Buxton gave notice that after Easter he would bring forward a motion to prevent the immolation of Hindoo widows.

LAW.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, Feb. 27.

Fairlie v. Parker.—This was an action brought by the plaintiffs, merchants at Calcutta, to recover the value of a large

quantity of cottons, shipped from India to England by the order of the defendants. The facts were these :—The defendants, who were ship-owners in London, had, in the years 1818 and 1819, when trade generally was in a state of great depression, a number of ships unemployed, and being at a loss how to dispose of them, among other speculations, sent a ship called the *Mary Ann* to Calcutta, having previously written to the plaintiffs, informing them that they had a vessel which they expected would soon arrive in India, and desiring them either to obtain freight for her to return with, at a stipulated rate per ton, or to freight her with Indian produce on their own account. Among other goods which they wished to be returned was the article of cotton, provided it could be purchased at a limited price. Soon after this the *Mary Ann* arrived laden with bars of silver, to pay for the goods that might be purchased. At this time, however, the rate of freight had fallen far below that which the defendants had directed the ship should be returned with, and cottons had risen in value. Under these circumstances, the plaintiffs were at a loss how to act. They could not purchase the cotton within the prescribed limits, nor could they obtain freight at the rate required by the defendants. Thinking, however, that they would not like to have the vessel returned home in ballast, they determined to reduce the silver which had been sent out into rupees, and to purchase cotton and other produce on the most advantageous terms that could be obtained. The defendants had stipulated that the goods should be free on board, except the cotton, with regard to which they had said nothing. The plaintiffs purchased a quantity at the price named, but the expenses of putting it on board made the price something more. The vessel arrived in England in May 1819, at which time the value of cotton was much deteriorated. The defendants kept the cotton for about six weeks ; they then threw it on the hands of the plaintiffs, on the ground that it had not been purchased within the limits prescribed.

The Lord Chief Justice left it to the jury to say whether the plaintiffs had exceeded the limits, and whether the defendants had acquiesced by not throwing up the cottons as soon as they arrived.

The jury were of opinion that the plaintiffs had exceeded the limits given them, and that the defendants had not acquiesced. They therefore returned their verdict for the defendants.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EAST-INDIA DIRECTORSHIP.

On the 7th of March a ballot was taken at the East-India House, for the election of a Director in the room of Jacob Bosanquet,

quet, Esq., who had disqualified. At six o'clock the glasses were closed and delivered to the scrutineers, who reported the election to have fallen on James Rivett Carnac, Esq.

MISSION TO MADAGASCAR.

Dr. Lyall is appointed to proceed to the Court of Radama, King of Madagascar, in the double capacity of successor to the late agent of government, and physician. The Doctor's chief duty will be to see that the treaty respecting the abolition of the slave trade, between England and his sable Majesty, shall be duly maintained; but he means to devote his leisure to the natural history of the island, in which there is ample scope for activity and talent.

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES IN THE BRITISH ARMY

(SERVING IN THE EAST).

4th L. Dr. R. Fawkes to be corn. by purch., v. Gumbleton prom. (1 Mar. 27); D. Gordon to be corn. by purch., v. Elton prom. (8 do.)

13th L. Dr. M. Jones to be corn. by purch., v. Mahon prom. (1 Mar.)

16th L. Dr. Hosp. assist. M. J. M. Ross to be assist. surg., v. Mouat prom. in 14th F. (15 Feb.); V. B. Simpson to be corn., v. Bere prom. (1 Mar.)

1st Foot. Capt. J. Wetherall to be maj. by purch., v. Hopkins, whose prom. has not taken place (13 June 26); Lieut. J. Bland to be capt. by purch., v. Harvey dec. (12 Feb. 26); Lieut. J. T. Holebrooke, ditto (2 March 26); Lieut. G. Bell, from 45th F., to be lieut., v. J. McGregor, who exch. (2 Apr. 26); Ens. F. Hoskins to be lieut. by purch., v. Butler prom. (1 Feb. 27); Ens. R. Going to be lieut. by purch., v. Macpherson prom. (2d do.); Ens. A. B. Montgomery to be lieut., v. Carter dec. (18 do.); Ens. C. Curtis to be lieut., v. McGregor dec. (19 do.); Ens. R. J. Hill to be lieut., v. D. Campbell dec. (20 do.); Ens. J. Ritchie to be lieut., v. Gray dec. (21 do.); Ens. W. W. Hornsby, from 33d F., to be lieut. (22d do.); J. M. Ross to be ens., v. Montgomery (29 Jan. 26); J. Brown to be ens., v. Church dec. (12 Feb. 26); H. M. Dalrymple to be ens. by purch., v. Hoskins (1 Feb. 27); F. W. H. Vallance to be ens., v. Curtis (19 do.); W. Webster to be ens., v. Hill (20 do.); T. J. Funnell to be ens., v. Ritchie (21 do.); Ens. W. D. Bedford to be lieut. by purch., v. Macpherson prom. (31 Jan. 27); H. A. Dalton to be ens. by purch., v. Going prom. (1 Mar.); G. R. Cathrow to be ens. by purch., v. Bedford (8 do.)

3d Foot. Maj. A. Cameron, from h.p. 83d F., to be maj., v. H. Marlay, who exch.; Hosp. assist. E. Overton to be assist. surg. (both 8 Mar.)

6th Foot. Acting Qu. Mast. Serj. W. Hornby to be qu. mast., v. Sinart, who rets. (1 Feb.); Assist. surg. R. Goodrich to be surg., v. Triggs dec.; Hosp. assist. T. Spence to be assist. surg., v. Goodrich (both 8 do.); Ens. W. Curteis to be lieut. by purch., v. Eyre prom.; B. W. Shaw to be ens. by purch., v. Curteis (both 20 Mar.)

13th Foot. Lieut. K. Barrett to be capt., v. Read dec. (25 May 26); Ens. R. W. Croker to be lieut., v. Pyne dec. (1 Jan. 26); Lieut. G. Keir, from 67th F., to be lieut., v. Barrett (25 May 26); G. J. D. McKenzie to be ens., v. Croker; — Wade to be ens., v. Grierson (both 22 Feb. 27).

14th Foot. Assist. surg. J. Mouat, from 16th L. Dr., to be surg., v. T. Jackson ret. on h.p. (15 Feb.)

16th Foot. W. Whitaker to be ens., v. Lane prom. (8 Feb.); F. Fairhough to be ens. v. Douglass prom. (22d Feb.)

20th Foot. Assist. surg. M. Griffith to be surg., v. A. Arnot, who rets. on h.p.; Hosp. assist. J. W. Moffat to be assist. surg., v. Griffith prom. (both 28 Feb.)

30th Foot. Ens. N. Armstrong to be lieut., v.

M'Leod res. (19th Apr. 26); — Waldron to be ens., v. Armstrong (22 Feb. 27).

31st Foot. Qu. Mast. Serj. S. Palmer to be qu. mast., v. Waters dec. (8 May 26).

38th Foot. Qu. Mast. Serj. D. Gould to be qu. mast., v. Southall dec. (19 May 26).

41st Foot. Capt. C. L. Bell, from 87th F., to be maj., v. Chambers prom. in 67th F. (12 Apr. 26); J. Bayley to be ens., v. Price prom. in 47th F.; Qu. Mast. Serj. W. Hanley to be qu. mast., v. Smith dec. (both 22 Feb. 27).

44th Foot. Lieut. W. B. Scott to be adj., v. Gledstanes dec. (1 Dec. 25).

45th Foot. Lieut. J. McGregor, from 1st F., to be lieut., v. Bell, who exch. (2 Apr. 26); Lieut. J. S. Brooke from h.p., to be lieut., v. R. S. Knox, who exch. (22 Feb. 27); Lieut. K. D. Lloyd, from R. Staff Corps, to be lieut., v. Grant prom. (1 Mar.)

46th Foot. Ens. C. W. Zuhlcke to be lieut., v. Read dec. (4 May 26); 2d-Lieut. J. Edwards, from Ceyl. Regt., to be lieut. by purch., v. Muttelbury prom. (15 Feb. 27); J. Campbell to be ens., v. Zuhlcke (22 do.)

47th Foot. Ens. J. Lardner to be lieut., v. Kyffin app. to 22d F. (12 July 25); Ens. A. M. Robinson to be lieut., v. M'Carthy dec. (12 Dec. 25); Ens. W. D. Hewson to be lieut., v. Douglas dec. (3 Jan. 26); Ens. H. H. F. Clarke to be lieut., v. Frome dec. (1 May 26); Ens. H. M'Nally to be lieut., v. Miller dec. (20 do.); Ens. R. Price, from 41st F., to be lieut., v. Murray dec. (23d do.); F. C. Fyers to be ens., v. Lardner (19 Feb. 27); W. Hope to be ens., v. Robinson (20 do.); W. Wise to be ens. by purch., v. Clarke (21 do.); H. Hutchinson to be ens., v. Hewson (22 do.); Lieut. W. D. Deverell to be adj., v. M'Carthy dec. (12 Dec. 25); W. F. White to be ens. by purch., v. M'Nally (20 Mar. 27).

48th Foot. Ens. J. A. Erskine to be lieut. by purch., v. Weston prom. (1 Feb. 27); H. D. Roebuck to be ens. by purch., v. Erskine (22 do.); Lieut. J. White, from h.p. York Chasseurs, to be lieut., v. Hughes prom. (13 Mar.)

54th Foot. Lieut. C. Hill to be capt., v. Burnett dec.; Ens. J. B. Dodd to be lieut., v. Fraser dec. (both 5 Jan. 26); Lieut. T. Kennedy, from 67th F., to be lieut., v. Hill (1 Apr. 26); F. J. Chinery to be ens. by purch., v. Burton prom. (15 Feb. 27).

59th Foot. Ens. W. S. Marley to be lieut., v. Coventry dec. (30 Jan. 26); J. Meckler to be ens., v. Harley (22 Feb. 27).

67th Foot. Maj. P. L. Chambers, from 41st F., to be capt., v. Shaw dec. (12 Apr. 26); Ens. D. Higgins to be lieut., v. Doyle dec. (5 May 26); Ens. A. Grierson from 13th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Doyle, whose prom., by purch., has been cancelled (15 Feb. 27); Hosp. assist. W. Wallace to be assist. surg., v. Brown prom. in 45th F. (8 Mar.)

89th Foot. Lieut. J. L. Kingston, from h.p., to be lieut., v. Sutton app. to 63th F. (20 Mar.); Capt. C. Dowson, from h.p. 56th F., to be paym., v. Anderson app. to 35th F. (1 Mar.)

97th Foot. Lieut. T. M'Donough, from h.p. 35th F., to be lieut., v. R. E. Butler, who exch. (1 Feb. 27); Ens. H. Handcock to be lieut. by purch., v. Cheney prom.; S. Mansergh to be ens. by purch., v. Handcock (both 20 Mar.)

Ceylon Regt. 2d-Lieut. H. F. Powell to be lieut. by purch., v. Reyne prom. (8 Feb.); C. H. Huddy to be 2d-lieut. by purch., v. Powell (15 Feb.); Capt. G. Ingham, from h.p. 3d Ceyl. Regt., to be capt., v. Churchill prom. (8 Mar.); F. H. Nash to be 2d-lieut. by purch., v. Powell prom. (1 Mar.)

Brevet. Br. Maj. E. Kelly, h.p. 23d L. Dr., dep. adj. gen. to forces serving in Ava, to be lieut. col. in army (20 May 26).

The undermentioned cadets of the Hon. E. I. Company's service to have temporary rank as ensigns during period of their being placed at Chatham, for field instruction in art of sapping and mining: W. E. Baker; C. S. Guthrie; and H. Beethon (all 16 Feb.)

INDIA SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Feb. 27. York, Moncrieff, from Singapore; and Fairfield, Work, from N.S. Wales; both at Deal, —also

—also *Diadem* transport, Edmonds, from the Mauritius and Cape; at Portsmouth.—20. *Friendship*, Osborne, from Batavia; off Dover, also *Woodman*, Leary, from N. S. Wales; at Deal.—*March* 1. *Alexander*, Richardson, from Ceylon and the Mauritius; at Deal.—2. *Celia*, Sherwood, from Batavia; at Milford (bound to London).—4. *Thomas Coutts*, Christie, from China 23d Nov.; *Georgiana*, Haylett, from Bengal 20th Sept., and Madras 15th Oct.; *Coventry*, Purdie, from the Mauritius and the Cape; and *Doncaster*, Church, from V.D. Land 8th Oct.; all at Gravesend, —also *Matilda*, Bulley, from Manila; off Dartmouth, —also *Duke of Lancaster*, Hanney, from Bengal 10th Nov.; at Liverpool.—6. *Diadem*, Cotgrave, from Bombay and Cork; at Deal.—7. *Joseph*, Christopherson, from Bengal and Gibraltar; at Gravesend, —also *Henry*, Hanney, from V.D. Land 15th Nov.; in Margate Roads.—8. *Abercrombie Robinson*, Innes, from China 17th Nov.; off Portsmouth.—11. H.M.S. *Larne*, Dobson, from Madras and Ceylon; at Portsmouth.—12. *Circassian*, Douthwaite, from Bengal and Madras 17th Oct.; at Deal.—13. *Duchess of Athol*, Daniell, from China 29th Nov.; *Berwickshire*, Shepherd, from China 19th Nov.; *Atalanta*, Johnson, from Bombay; *Eliza*, Mahon, from Bengal 24th Sept., and Madras 20th Oct.; *Clyde*, Munro, from Bengal and Madras; *Prince Regent*, Richards, from the Mauritius; and *Calista*, Robertson, from ditto; all at Deal, —also *Royal Charlotte*, Dudman, from Singapore, Malacca, and Penang; off Hastings; —also *Lady Amherst*, Lisle, from the South Seas and the Mauritius; off Dover.—14. *Cleveland*, Havilock, from the Mauritius; Java, Driver, from China; and *Sarah*, Milne, from Bombay 1st Oct.; all at Deal.—19. *Lord Louthier*, Stewart, from China 29th Nov.; at Deal.—22. *Persepolis*, Laing, from Singapore 5th Dec.; off Dover.—23. *Edinburgh*, Bax, from China, 29th Nov.; off Portland.—27. *Macqueen*, Walker, from China 14th Dec.; off Portsmouth, —also *Bolivar*, Smith, from Singapore 30th Nov.; at Liverpool.—28. *Lady Holland*, Snell, from Madras 16th Oct.; off Hastings.

Departures.

March 8. *Bombay*, Charlie, for Madras and China; from Deal.—9. *Farguharson*, Cruickshank, for St. Helena, Penang, Singapore, and China; *General Kyd*, Nairne, for Madras and China; *Waterloo*, Manning, for ditto; and *Albion*, Chambers, for the Mauritius; all from Deal.—15. *St. David*, Richardson, for Bombay; and *Mary and Jane*, Matches, for Batavia and Singapore; both from Deal.—16. *Cretan*, Gulliver, for Otaheite and South Seas; and *Protector*, Waugh, for Madras and Bengal; both from Deal.—24. *Belzoni*, Talbert, for Bengal; from Deal.—25. *Mincerva*, Morris, for Bengal; *Oynthia*, Rixon, for Batavia and Singapore; *Guildford*, Johnson, for N. S. Wales (with convicts); *Melway*, Wight, and *Lang*, Lusk, for N. S. Wales and V. D. Land; and *Earl of Egremont*, Johnson, for the Cape; all from Deal.

PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

Per Alexander, from Ceylon: Major Somersfield, his lady, and 3 children; Mr. Noland, civilian; Mr. Moncur, merchant; Mrs. Bertram and two children.

Per Fairfield, from N.S. Wales: Dr. Rae, R.N.; Mr. Mills; Mr. De Swinton.

Per Clyde, from Bengal and Madras: Lieut. Col. Hawkins, 2d Madras Europ. Regt.; Mrs. and Miss Hawkins; Capt. Marr, 3d Madras N.I.; Maj. Bruce, H.M.'s 67th regt.; Maj. Wallis, H.M.'s 46th do.; Capt. Brooke, H.M.'s 46th do.; Capt. Chadwick, H.M.'s 45th do.; Lieuts. Scott and Robertson, 2d Extra Bengal N.I.; Lieut. Hope, 57th Bengal N.I.; Lieut. Carr, 11th Madras N.I.; Capt. Tucker, 11th do.; Mr. F. Healey; Dr. Beattie; Master Macqueen.—(Ensign A. C. Hayes, H.M.'s 13th regt., died at the Cape on 6th Dec.)

Per Diadem transport, from the Mauritius, &c.: Lieut. Drury, R.M., and the Rev. Mr. Allen, late of the *Queen-Glendower*; Dr. McDonald and family, and Capt. Nicholson and family from the Cape; Lieut. Galway from the Mauritius; Lieut. Wells of the Bombay Marine; Capt. W. Bouchier, R.N.; Dr. Furner; Mr. Watson, shipowner; and Lieut. I. B. Emery, late civil governor at the island of Mombasa.

Per Woodman, from N.S. Wales: Mr. Elsworth; Lieut. Robertson, H.M.'s 92d regt.; Dr. J. Rutherford, R.N.; Dr. G. Rutherford, ditto; Master Gillman.

Per Thomas Coutts, from China: R. Campbell Esq., Bengal C.S.; Capt. Agnew, H.M.'s 4th L.Dr.

Per Georgiana, from Bengal: Rev. S. H. Kendler and lady; Capt. R. A. Thomas, H.M.'s 44th Regt.; Lieut. S. A. Grant, H.M.'s service; Lieut. S. H. Middleton, artillery; Lieuts. Savory, Moir, Ramsay, and Cook, Bengal N.I.; Mr. J. Rose, 4th officer of the *Sir David Scott*; Mr. H. Daniells, Bengal med. estab.; Mrs. Isabella Wilkinson, and two sons; Mr. Harrington, civil service; Mrs. Harrington and two sons; Mr. M. Leod, civil service; Capt. McKenzie, King's Royals; J. McDonald, Esq., M.D.; Lieut. M. Hisslop; Lieut. McBraide, 9th Madras N.I.; Capt. Moore; Mr. Campbell, civil service; Mr. Clarke, Bengal artillery; Mr. R. Lovett; Capt. S. Smith, H.M.'s 3d regt.

Per Abercrombie Robinson, from China: Mrs. Presgrave, lady of E. Presgrave, Esq., acting resident at Singapore; Capt. Jas. Webster, late commander of the ship *Mary Anne*; P. Amundson, Esq., merchant, Canton; two Masters Presgrave; two Misses Presgrave.

Per Duke of Lancaster, from Bengal: Capt. Aplin, Bengal N.I.; Mrs. Aplin and children; Capt. Goldhawke; Lieuts. Jackson and Gilmore; Mr. Phillips; Mrs. Col. Edwards and children; two Masters Ronald; Mr. Lucas.

Per Bunney, from V. D. Land: G. W. Evans, Esq.; Mrs. Evans; two Masters Evans; Miss Jane Evans; Messrs. J. Blood, G. Hunt, and C. Seal.

Per Berwickshire, from China: F. H. Toone, Esq.; Lieut. Lazard; J. W. Wheeler, Esq.; Mr. John Mead.

Per Atalanta, from Bombay: Mr. Agar, H.C.'s service; Lieut. Dick; Master Cunningham.

Per Eliza, Mahon, from Bengal: Capt. Long and Lieut. Murray, 59th regt.; Mrs. Murray and family; Lieut. Scott, Bengal artillery; Mrs. Field and Child; Capt. Lovelass, 16th Lancers.

Per Prince Regent, from the Mauritius: Mr. Dickinson; Capt. Dobson; Mr. Webb.

Per Royal Charlotte, from Penang; Master Crawford, nephew of the Resident of Singapore. —(Lieut. Maxwell, H.M.'s 11th L.Drs., for the Cape, died at sea in Nov.)

Per Lord Louthier, from China: Maj. Jas. Elder, 1st Bombay regt.; Lieut. Westby, Queen's Royals; Ens. Scriven, 5th Bombay regt.; Mr. J. M. Johnston, free mariner.

Per Circassian, from Bengal: Capt. Barwell, H.M.'s 6th regt.; Lieut. Kingdom, H.M.'s 31st do.; Mr. Kingdom; Master Bowman. — From Ceylon: Dr. Farrell, inspector; Mr. Farrell, civil service; Lieut. Mac Vicar, Ceylon Regt.; Dr. Fren and Lieut. Stannes, H.M.'s 97th regt.; Mrs. Walbechoff and four children; Masters G. Fellows and Thos. Mauley. —(Lieut. Mitchell, H.C.'s 19th regt., from Madras, died at sea on 11th Jan.)

Per Edinburgh, from China: Sir Jas. B. Urmoston, Knt., president of the factory, Canton; Rev. H. Harding, chaplain, ditto; Capt. G. W. Bonham, 25th regt. N.I.

Per Macqueen, from China: Jas. Bathgate, Esq., merchant, Calcutta; Lieut. H. M. Lawrence, Bengal artillery; Mrs. Bathgate.

Per Lady Holland, from Madras and the Cape: Maj. O'Reilly; Capt. Beddingfield; Capt. H. Stone; Mrs. Stone; Capt. Hele; Capt. Woodgate and eight children; Capt. W. B. Rowley; Capt. Wilson; Mr. Ely; Mr. Harris; Capt. Pennyfeather, late of the *Eliza*; Mrs. Pennyfeather and two children; Capt. and Mrs. Sewell; Colonel Bailey; Dr. Mayne. —(Capt. P. V. Agnew, his lady, and 3 children, were left at the Cape.)

Per Padang, from Padang: the Rev. Chas. Evans; Mrs. Evans; two Masters and two Misses Evans.

PASSENGERS TO INDIA.

Per Vansittart, for Bengal: Maj. J. Dunn, Company's service; Messrs. R. E. Cunliffe, H. W. Dean, and R. H. Mytton, writers; Messrs. D. Woodburn

Woodburn and J. Nesbitt, assist. surg.; Messrs. T. Young, G. Herbert, and P. Manwaring, cadets; Miss E. Shortland; Rev. R. Mytton, chaplain; Mrs. Mytton and daughter; Mr. J. Kerr, veterinary surg.; Miss H. Cunliffe; Mr. M'Daniell, free-mariner; R. R. Burrington and J. Chambers, free-mariners; Capt. Jones in charge of recruits: 50 H.C.'s recruits; 3 women and 2 children belonging to ditto; native servants, &c.

Per Charles Grant, for Bombay: Colonel Frederick and lady; Lieut. Eggleston; Mr. Dewar, barrister; Mrs. Dewar and child; Mr. Sprague, barrister; Messrs. R. J. M. Muspratt, P. Scott, and E. Stacey, writers; Messrs. T. Tarvilton, W. J. Hay, F. L. Frederick, W. J. Tudor, J. Burnell, R. Holmes, H. W. Brett, and C. R. Hogg, cadets; Messrs. F. Whitlock and P. Jones, Bombay marine; 20 marine boys for Bombay; Maj. Hunt, Lieut. Robinson, and Ensigns Walton and Somers, H.M.'s 2d Regt. or Royals; Capt. Parbly, Lieut. Ainslie, and Cornet Ellis, H.M.'s 4th L. Dr.; 315 soldiers, H.M.'s 2d Royals and 4th L. Dr.; 24 soldiers' wives; 17 children; native servants.

Per Bombay, for Madras: Rev. Mr. Henkison, chaplain, and lady; Mr. and Mrs. Gahagan and two daughters, returning to India; Messrs. J. Dod, F. H. Sampson, P. E. L. Rickards, N. Wroughton, S. G. C. Renard, and J. E. Mawdsley, cadets; Capt. Cross, and Ensign Kerr, Main, Going, and Palmer, H.M.'s Royals; 260 men H.M.'s Royals; 30 soldiers' wives; 16 children.

Per Farquharson, for St. Helena, Penang, &c.: Mr. R. T. Wingrove, writer, and lady, for Penang; Mr. C. Mackenzie, merchant, for Singapore; Miss F. Mackenzie; Mr. J. Till, writer, for St. Helena; Mr. P. Valle to assist in culture of silk at St. Helena; Mrs. Muzie, his housekeeper; Mr. Jas. Cameron, Company's gardener; several servants; 20 privates H.C.'s service; 6 soldiers' wives; 4 children.

Per General Kyd, for Madras: Lieut. Col. D. Foules and Capt. P. Farquharson, H.C.'s service; Mr. L. Lucas, his wife, and son, for Madras; Miss S. A. Bridgeman; Mr. J. Home; Mr. G. Chester, H.C.'s service; Mr. W. Bowdleswell, writer; Messrs. J. Mernett, D. Pearson, R. Henderson, W. Wyndham, C. Babington, J. Whitlock, J. Hogarth, R. Jenkins, R. Cameron, G. Patrickson, and C. T. Willis, cadets; Capt. May, Lieut. McLeod, and Ens. Wilson, H.M.'s 1st Foot; Lieuts. Vaughan and Hamilton, H.M.'s 41st Foot; Cornet Miller, H.M.'s 4th L. Dr.; 245 men of H.M.'s 1st, 41st, and 49th Regts.; 29 soldiers' wives, 13 children; servants, &c.

Per Waterloo, for Madras: Mr. J. A. Oakes, C.S., and lady; Mrs. Dowson; Col. W. Clapham and lady; Mrs. Daniell; Miss Watson; Messrs. W. A. Inglis, R. Grote, J. L. Strange, and G. M. Bird, writers; Messrs. G. Haines, W. H. Rickets, W. Taylor, W. R. Annesley, F. C. Cotton, J. C. McPherson, J. K. Hannah, A. Douglas, S. Cuff, E. Lawford, P. T. Birdmore, T. G. L. Lascelles, and C. H. Freeman, cadets; Lieut. Col. McCaskill, Capt. Daniel, Lieut. Twigg, Ens. Glover, Ens. Wilson, Ens. Lee, Ens. Dewes, Assist. surg. Carline, and Paymaster. Dowson, H.M.'s 89th Foot; 300 men H.M.'s 89th do.; 36 soldiers' wives; 30 children; native servants, &c.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

The *Marmion*, Petrie, from Liverpool to Bengal, was totally lost on 15th Feb. in the Bay of Biscay (lat. 42 N., long. 11 W.), having started a butt on the larboard bow, and could not be stopped. The master, crew, and passengers were all saved. The value of the *Marmion* and her cargo is estimated at between £60,000 and £70,000.

The *Sarah*, Tucker, from London to Bombay, put into Rio Janeiro 28th Nov., in consequence of the crew having mutined. Four of them were wounded and one afterwards died. She proceeded on her voyage 6th Dec., with a guard of marines furnished by the Admiral's ship.

The *Aurora*, from Singapore to Penang, is lost in the Straits of Malacca.

The *Caledonian*, Bell, from London to New Holland, put into the Cape of Good Hope 26th Dec. in consequence of want of water, and insubordination of part of the crew.

The *Edward Stretell*, from Rangoon, was lost on Pulo Gomez, near Acheen, in November.

Asiatic Journ. Vol. XXIII. No. 136.

The *Jura Packet*, from Batavia to Antwerp, was totally lost off Flushing on the night of the 2d March; the whole of her crew and passengers drowned. She had 8,000 bags of coffee on board. She was insured at Lloyd's.

The *London* (an American), has been lost off the Sandwich Islands, on her passage from South America to China. The treasure was saved, and safely conveyed to Owyhee.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Jan. 12. At Norton Cottage, Tenby, the lady of Lieut. Colonel Voyle, of a daughter.

Feb. 24. At Clapton, the lady of Capt. T. Havside, Hon. Company's service, of a son.

March 7. At the Rectory House, Bitton, the lady of Lieut. Col. Commandant Sealy, Bombay establishment, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Feb. 27. At Hastings, Maj. J. L. Gale, Bengal army, to Isabella, daughter of the late Arch. Douglas, Esq., of Edderstone, Roxburghshire.

March 12. At Menlo Castle, Horatio Nelson Ramsay, Esq., Bombay N.I., to Catherine, third daughter of Thomas Turner, Cheadle, Staffordshire, Esq., and grand-daughter to Sir John Blake, Menlo Castle, county Galway, Ireland.

13. At St. James's, Westminster, J. W. E. Biscoe, Esq., of the Bengal cavalry, to Mary, only daughter of the late J. Harris, Esq., M.D., of Kingston, Jamaica.

15. At Streattham Church, A. M. Baxter, Esq., attorney-general, New South Wales, to Maria del Rosario Gordon, only daughter of the late R. Gordon, Esq., of Veres de la Frontera.

19. At St. James's, Westminster, Capt. W. R. Best, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Frances, second daughter of T. Sibley, Esq., of Luton, Bedfordshire.

20. At Edinburgh, R. D. Boyd, Esq., of Paris, nephew of W. Boyd, Esq., M.P., to Eliza, sister to H. Boyd, Esq., commissioner of revenue at Ceylon.

DEATHS.

Jan. 2. At sea, on the passage from China, Mr. W. Herrod, 3d officer of the H.C.'s ship *Duchess of Athol*.

Feb. 6. At Wells, Somersetshire, Arch. Christie, Esq., late brevet major, 6th Foot.

9. At Homleslow, John Burrows, son of H. C. Sanneman, Esq., 11th Royal Hussars.

15. At Yair, in Selkirkshire, Alex. Pringle, Esq., formerly of the Madras civil service.

25. At Aberdeen, Capt. J. W. Reid, half-pay 48th Foot, in his 58th year.

27. At Norton Cottage, Tenby, Margaret Emily, sixth daughter of Lieut. Colonel and Mrs. Voyle, aged four years and four months.

March 2. At East Cottage, Bexley Heath, the lady of Lieut. Col. J. Hickey, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

8. At Dover, Capt. Elsdon, of the ship *Helo*.

10. At Dalkeith, Capt. Jas. Fraser, aged 81. Capt. F. was one of the few officers who survived the memorable siege of Mangalore, in the East-Indies, in 1783.

— At Bath, Mrs. Hunn, mother of the Right Hon. George Canning, in her 81st year.

13. At Edinburgh, Mrs. Swinton, relict of the late Arch. Swinton, Esq., formerly of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

14. The Rev. R. Johnson, rector of the parishes of St. Antholin's and St. John Baptist, and formerly chaplain of the colony of New South Wales, aged 72.

— At Plymouth Anchorage, Mr. G. T. Calvely, 2d officer of the H.C.'s ship *Waterloo*.

25. At Enfield, in his 79th year, Sir Nathaniel Dance, Knt., formerly a commander in the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

Lastly, At Slaten Island, New York, Dr. C. K. Bruce, late of Calcutta.

GOODS DECLARED FOR SALE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

For Sale 9 April—Prompt 6 July.
Company's and Licensed—Indigo.

Company's Warehouses.—The charge for management will continue as before, viz. £2. per cent.

The Court of Directors have given Notice, that the Warehouse Rent on Soy, in lieu of 2d. per Chest per Week till the Prompt Day, and afterwards 1d. per lot per week if divided, will be charged as follows:—In Chests containing Soy in small jars or bottles, 2d. per chest per week.—In Jars, Tubs, or small Casks, if not exceeding 8 galls, 4d. each Jar, &c. per week; above 2 and not exceeding 15 galls, 1d. each ditto per week; above 15 galls, 2d. each ditto per week.—In Half-hogsheads, 3d. each per week.—In Hogsheads, 4d. each per week.—In Pipes or Leaguers, 1s. each per week. The above Rates will apply to all Soy now in the

CARGOES OF EAST-INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS lately arrived.

CARGOES of the *Thomas Coutts*, *Abercrombie Robinson*, *Berwickshire*, *Duchess of Athol*, *Jawa*, *Lord Lowther*, *Edinburgh*, and *Macqueen*, from *China*, and the *Cronstadien* and *Ellica*, from *Bengal*.

Company's.—Tea—Sugar.

Private Trade and Privilege.—Teas—China Raw Silk—China Silks—Piece Goods—Nankeens—Elephant's Teeth—Coral Beads—Glass Bubbles—Bamboo Cane—Floor Mats—Wine—Madeira—Sherry.

LIST of SHIPS trading to INDIA and Eastward of the CAPE of GOOD HOPE.

Destination.	Appointed to sail.	Ship's Name.	Tonnage.	Owners or Consignees.	Captains.	Where loading.	Reference for Freight or Passage.
<i>Madras</i>	1837. April 10	<i>Seaverty</i>	300	Johnston and Meaburn	Andrew Ross	W. I. Docks	Edm. Read, Riche's-court, Lime-str.
	15	<i>Star</i>	230	James Bishop	William Fisher	Lon. Docks	F. Bayertz, Broad-street Mews. [ble
	5	<i>George</i>	488	Johnston and Meaburn	William Fulcher	W. I. Docks	Cockerill, Trail, & Co. & W. Abercrom-
	25	<i>Kingston</i>	404	William A. Bowen	W. A. Bowen	E. I. Docks	Cockerill, Trail, & Co. & J. S. Brinley.
	15	<i>Grecian</i>	340	James Allen and Co.	James Allen	W. I. Docks	Henderson and Graham, Mark-lane.
<i>Graves.</i>		<i>Roxburgh Castle</i>	588	Wigrams and Green	George Denny	Blackwall	J. Pirie & Co., Freeman's ct., Cornhill.
<i>Port.</i>	30		600	William Faith	William Faith	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co., Billiter-sq.
<i>Graves.</i>		<i>Lt. MacNaghten</i>	710	John Cumberlege, jun.	J. A. Cumberlege	E. I. Docks	John Lynce, jun. Birch-lane.
<i>Port.</i>	30		682	David Sutton	David Sutton	E. I. Docks	Barber, Neate, & Co., Clement's-lane.
<i>Graves.</i>		<i>Neptune</i>	483	Robert Granger	Wm. W. West	E. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co.
<i>Port.</i>	May 1	<i>Edon</i>	487	George Lyall	Robert Jeffery	W. I. Docks	John Groves and Robert Thornhill.
<i>Graves.</i>	April 30	<i>Child Harold</i>	890	T. and A. Dixon	Adam Dixon	City Canal	Thos. Dennis and Robt. Thornhill.
<i>Port.</i>	May 7	<i>Henry Forcher</i>	843	James L. Heathorn	Wm. Nichol	W. I. Docks	J. L. Heathorn, 'Change-alley.
<i>Bengal</i>	April 6	<i>Elisa</i>	530	John Pirie and Co.	John Brodie	City Canal	John Pirie and Co.
	8	<i>Lady of the Lake</i>	530	John Campbell	Row. B. Cotgrave	City Canal	Webb and Stewart, or Barber, N eat
	3	<i>Charles Kerr</i>	457	Aaron Chapman	Ingram Chapman	W. I. Docks	J. Chapman, and Co., Leadenhall-st.
<i>Graves.</i>	April 20	<i>Lady Nugent</i>	600	Michael Andrew	John Clarkson	W. I. Docks	Bazett and Co.,
<i>Port.</i>	May 1	<i>Kath. Steer. Forbes</i>	350	Buckles and Co.	Bourne Russell	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co. Mark-lane.
<i>Bombay</i>	May 4		300	William Tindell	Thos. Gibbs	W. I. Docks	John Lynce, jun.
	April 7	<i>Lady Rouena</i>	400	Buckles and Co.	W. B. Lamb	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	6	<i>Morning Star</i>	500	Geo. Joad	Wm. Richardson	W. I. Docks	Edm. Read
	20	<i>Prince Regent</i>	400	Thornion and West	John Rutland	W. I. Docks	Edm. Read
	May 25	<i>Alexander</i>	160	Andrew Henderson	Henry B. Matthews	City Canal	Edmund Read.
	April 20	<i>Princess Victoria</i>	280	James H. Southam	Jas. H. Southam	City Canal	John S. Brinley.
	3		300	Thomas Harvie	Thomas Harvie	City Canal	Buckles and Co.
	1	<i>Victoria</i>	386	Nath. Domett	George Parker	Shields	L. Swainson, Nag's Head-court.
	10	<i>Nimrod</i>	452	George Lyall	Joe. J. Drake	Portsmouth	Joseph Larchan.
	16	<i>Resolution</i>	300	James Gale and Son	Robert Plunkett	Woolwich	Joseph Larchan.
<i>Down</i>	3	<i>Mary of Hastings</i>	440	Howard and Gardner	Edward P. Goody	London	Robt. Brooks, Old Broad-street.
<i>Convict</i>	9	<i>Persian</i>	268	Robert Granger	John Findlay	Lon. Docks	Robt. Brooks, & Co.
<i>Ships.</i>	3	<i>Princess Charlotte</i>	275	John Lumsden	Alexander Kenn	Lon. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	4	<i>Alacrity</i>	365	William Hudson	William Hudson	Lon. Docks	Austice and Stubbs, Great St. Helen's
	3	<i>Lion</i>	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.
	30	<i>Orelia</i>					
	30	<i>George Home</i>					

31st March 1837.

EAST-INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS, of the Season 1826-27, with their Managing Owners, Commanders, &c.

Ships.	Tons.	Managing Owners.	Commanders.	First Officers.	Second Officers.	Third Officers.	Fourth Officers.	Surgeons.	Purveys.	Consignments.	To be Afloat.	To sail to Graves end.	To be in the Downs.	When Sailed.
8 <i>Bridgewater</i>	1276	James Sims	J. R. Manderson	W. H. Walker	C. Pennington	David Home	John Hayward	W. Spyt	Joseph Cragg	Bombay & China	1826	1826	1827.	1827.
9 <i>Leather Castle</i>	1267	Matthew Isacke	Thomas Baker	G. K. Bathie	J. Wilkinson	G. J. Thompson	C. Hawkins	(J. H. Blen- nichasse)	Benj. B. Lord	St. Helena, Bom- bay, & China.	14 Nov 29	Nov 29	4 Jan.	4 Jan.
8 <i>Atlas</i>	1267	Charles O. Wayne	John Hine	Hen. Bristow	T. G. Adams	John Vaux	John Donett	Rich. Murray	Jos. W. Cragg		29 do.	14 Dec 19	20 do.	17 do.
4 <i>Regulus</i>	1234	John F. Timins	C. B. Gribble	Edw. Ford	A. C. Watling	F. Walnwright	Godfr. S. Hirst	Wm. Scott	Nich. G. Glass		29 do.	14 Dec 19	20 do.	21 do.
6 <i>Duke of York</i>	1227	S. Marjoribanks	Robert Locke	Geo. Ireland	F. Mac Neill	J. Thomson	Dudley North	Wm. E. Brown	Edw. Crowfoot		29 do.	14 Dec 19	20 do.	21 do.
7 <i>Harfordshire</i>	1204	John Locke	J. C. Whiteman	Robert Card	Wm. Robson	B. J. Thomson	J. R. Lancaster	Richard Boyes	Edw. Crowfoot		29 do.	14 Dec 19	20 do.	21 do.
7 <i>Peninsular</i>	1204	Joseph Hare	Rich. Glasspole	Wm. Longcroft	John Bell	A. H. Crawford	Henry Denny	J. W. Wilson	Rich. Rawes		29 do.	14 Dec 19	20 do.	21 do.
6 <i>Buckinghamshire</i>	1204	Company's Ship	David R. Newall	John Hillman	Rich. Glasspole	Wm. Longcroft	John Bell	A. H. Crawford	Henry Denny		29 do.	14 Dec 19	20 do.	21 do.
11 <i>Seabird</i>	1246	Company's Ship	William Hay	Joseph Coates	Peter Pilcher	Thos. Alchin	T. Packman	Wm. Hayland	Wm. Bruce		29 do.	14 Dec 19	20 do.	21 do.
4 <i>Charles Grant</i>	1246	William Moffat	John P. Wilson	R. Lindsay	C. A. Kammure	Thos. Alchin	T. Packman	Wm. Hayland	Wm. Bruce		29 do.	14 Dec 19	20 do.	21 do.
4 <i>Eyre</i>	1233	R. Marjoribanks	Samuel Sette	J. Duttman	R. Jobling	James Nowat	John Garner	John Lawson	R. Middlemass		29 do.	14 Dec 19	20 do.	21 do.
5 <i>Windsor</i>	1232	George Clay	Amb. F. Proctor	Wm. MacNair	Thos. Thoms	Mark Clayton	R. E. Warner	Joseph Docker	Jas. Thomson		29 do.	14 Dec 19	20 do.	21 do.
4 <i>Farquharson</i>	1236	John C. Lochner	W. Cruickshank	Henry Cowan	George Lloyd	James Walker	J. G. Murray	James Bruce	D. Grassick		29 do.	14 Dec 19	20 do.	21 do.
9 <i>Bombay</i>	1242	Henry Templer	John Charrette	H. Clement	George Wise	H. S. Isaacson	Thos. Fess	Wm. Westcott	Robert Miles		1827.	1827.	1827.	1827.
7 <i>General Kyd</i>	1250	James Walker	Alex. Nairne	Richard Apin	H. Thomson	A. C. Barclay	W. Mackenzie	F. P. Allyn	David Clark		1827.	1827.	1827.	1827.
6 <i>Waterloo</i>	1235	Company's Ship	Wm. Manning	W. R. Blakeley	G. T. Calvey	Fred. Hedges	John Tate	Jas. Halliday	John Benifold		1827.	1827.	1827.	1827.
1 <i>Duke of Sussex</i>	1200	S. Marjoribanks	W. H. Whitehead	John D. Orr	G. Caruthnot	Bazil W. Mure	C. Mac Rae	John Sim	C. D. Morson		1827.	1827.	1827.	1827.
5 <i>Kellic Castle</i>	1232	Geo. Reed	W. H. Ladd	R. Patullo	J. Sercombe	Francis West	W. S. Storkley	John Cullen	J. C. Sinclair		1827.	1827.	1827.	1827.
7 <i>Minerva</i>	978	George Palmer	George Probyn	Jas. Dryner	Chas. Ingram	A. Tudor	B. J. Littlehales	Wm. Chanter	Chas. Reynell		1827.	1827.	1827.	1827.
8 <i>Pr. Cheryl of Wales</i>	976	C. B. Gribble	Christoph. Bidden	Henry Gribble	C. W. Frantree	Nath. A. Knox	Wm. Toller	C. H. Barnes	W. H. Hunt		1827.	1827.	1827.	1827.
9 <i>Warren Hastings</i>	1000	John L. Minck	George Mason	T. A. Davis	C. S. Bantree	C. H. Winbolt	John Campbell	Geo. Graham	Wm. Cragg		1827.	1827.	1827.	1827.
8 <i>Merc. Wellington</i>	901	Henry Bonham	Alfred Chapman	R. B. Shittler	John Sparke	W. Liddell	John Duncan	Wm. Winton	Frank Jenkins		1827.	1827.	1827.	1827.
10 <i>Thomas Grenville</i>	885	Company's Ship	Charles Shies	J. B. Burnett	Robt. Robson	Wm. Taylor	Aug. Urnston	Adam Elliot	Joseph Adams		1827.	1827.	1827.	1827.

CHARTERED for ONE VOYAGE to and from CHINA.

Barossa	729	Ruckles & Co.	H. Hutchinson	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Alfred	716	Fraser, Living & Co.	J. Pearson	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brosborough	751	Alfred Chapman	Thos. Fawson	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lord Hungerford	736	J. L. Heathorn	Wm. Heathorn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

THE ASIATIC JOURNAL

FOR
MAY, 1827.

Original Communications,

&c. &c. &c.

ON SLAVERY IN THE EAST.

[*Concluded from p. 452.*]

IN proceeding towards the south of the peninsula, and especially the districts on the coast of Malabar, the picture of eastern slavery assumes darker and more forbidding colours than it wears in the other parts of India. The least favourable account of the slavery of Southern India is found in the work of Dr. F. Buchanan,* and could we be well assured that it was perfectly accurate, and that during the interval which has elapsed since his visit (which, it should be recollected, is nearly thirty years) no ameliorations have taken place, we should be greatly shocked at the condition of Indian slavery in that part of Hindustan, though far from disposed to assimilate it, as Dr. Buchanan does, to that of the negroes in the West-Indies, who seem in his opinion to be in a preferable state !

The slaves of Malabar, Dr. Buchanan tells us, are the absolute property of their *dévarus*, or lords, and may be employed in any work their masters please. They are not attached to the soil, but may be sold or transferred in any manner the owner thinks fit, except that a husband and wife cannot be sold separately. The right to the children of these slaves depends upon the customs of the caste to which the slave belongs, for even these poor creatures have all the pride of caste, and a Churman or Polian slave would be defiled by the touch of one of the Parian tribe. The master is bound to give the slave a certain allowance of provisions, which is a miserable pittance, and would be inadequate to support them, but that the slaves on each estate get a twenty-first part of the gross produce of the rice, as an encouragement to industry.

There are three modes of transferring slaves : 1st, by *jenum* or sale ; a
young

* Journey through Mysore, &c. *passim*.

young man with his wife sells for from £6. 4s. to £7. 8s.* 2d. by *canum*, or mortgage of the slave's labour; the proprietor receives a loan of about two-thirds of the value of the slave, and a small quantity of rice annually, to shew that his property in the slave still exists, and he may redeem the pledge whenever he pleases; the lender mean time has the labour of the slave by way of interest, and if the slave dies, the borrower supplies another: 3d. *patom*, ~~for~~ rent; in this case the master gives the slaves to another man, who maintains them, and pays about 4s. per annum for a man, and half that sum for a woman. "These two tenures," observes Dr. Buchanan, "are utterly abominable; for the person who exacts the labour and furnishes the subsistence of the slave, is directly interested to increase the former and diminish the latter as much as possible. In fact, the slaves are very severely treated, and their diminutive stature and squalid appearance shew evidently a want of adequate nourishment. There can be no comparison between their condition and that of the slaves in the West-India islands, except that in Malabar there are a sufficient number of females, who are allowed to marry any person of the same caste with themselves, and whose labour is always exacted by their husband's master; the master of the girl having no authority over her so long as she lives with another man's slave."†

Dr. Buchanan seems to have entirely overlooked all the objectionable features of West-Indian slavery, not one of which is to be found in the society he visited. The Eastern slave is not an alien to the soil; his physical aspect does not expose him to his master's contempt; there is no slave mart, no slave dealer, no overseer or gang-master, no cart-whip, in the slave system of Southern India; above all, the slave and the master are subject to the same laws, for the Company's courts would make no distinction whatever between the Polian and the Brahmin, the Parian and the Nair. The evidence of one would be taken with as much readiness as that of another; and the murder of a slave, instead of being punished, as in some parts of the West, when Dr. Buchanan wrote, by a paltry fine, would be expiated in India only by death, whether the victim was bond or free. The Indian slave, moreover, has a share in the produce of his labour.

If the slaves in Malabar are in a worse condition than the negroes in the West-Indies, what are we to think of that of the hired labourers? In the northern part of Malabar, Dr. Buchanan tells us, the panicars, or hired men, who are generally Nairs, Moplays and Tiars, work from morning to noon, when they are allowed an hour for their breakfast; they then work until evening, and all night they watch the crops! For this service they are given a hut, a piece of cloth twice a year, from 2s. 3½d. to 4s. 7d. annually for oil and salt, and a daily allowance of rice, which is larger than that given to the slaves. If the panicar is indebted to his master (and half of them are in that predicament) stoppages are made, and they are not allowed to change their employer. They are frequently flogged; and Dr. B. observes that as their masters are not obliged to provide for them in old age or during famine, "they seem to be in a worse condition than the slaves."‡

The real state of the slaves in Southern India is of the more importance from the large proportion which the servile class bears to the free population, according to the same writer. In Canara, out of a population of 123,000, no less than 16,000 are represented to be slaves; in another province the same

number

* In other parts of Malabar the price is considerably less.

† Journey, &c. vol. ii. p. 370.

‡ Ibid. p. 562.

number of slaves is given to a population of 106,000, and in another to 146,000.

We have little doubt that the statements of Dr. Buchanan are somewhat exaggerated; and we must bear in mind that his journey took place soon after the wars in the Mysore, which had disorganized the country, then recently subdued, and probably multiplied the voluntary as well as involuntary slaves.

That slavery in Southern India is more general and more systematic than in Bengal there cannot, however, be any doubt: it is a fact attested by many witnesses of indisputable veracity. In an able minute of the Madras Board of Revenue, in 1818,* it is stated, that in Malabar and Canara, the inferior land-owner is generally the personal slave of the proprietor of the land, and is sold and mortgaged by him independently of his lands. These slaves, belonging to the most depraved class of Hindus, generally outcasts, usually reside in the outskirts of the villages, receiving from their employers little more than food, with a scanty supply of raiment. In some provinces (as in the Tamil country) these domestic slaves are *adscripti glebæ*, and may even claim *merahs*, or hereditary private property, in the incidents of their villeinage; but in Malabar and Canara, though it is not the landlord's interest to sell the slaves who cultivate their lands, yet they dispose of the increasing stock; and their power to dispose of all their slaves, independently of their lands, seems undisputed.

Further and more detailed evidence touching the state of slavery in Southern India was elicited by a remarkable circumstance. In 1819 one of the judges of circuit in Malabar reported to the Court of Adawlut the fact of the seizure of some slaves, by distraint upon their master, who were sold by public auction, to defray arrears of revenue due to the Government. A fact so startling as this induced the Governor in Council to institute strict inquiries into the system of slavery in the provinces subject to the Madras government, and the several collectors were directed by the Board of Revenue to report fully on the state of slavery in their respective districts. It appears from the voluminous reports of these officers that Dr. Buchanan was much deceived as to the actual condition of the slaves in the South. The majority of the collectors decidedly impugn his representations, and exhibit a picture of this unhappy relation in far less odious colours. It appears from their statements that the principal slave districts in Southern India are those of Arcot, Madura, Canara, Coimbatore, Tinnevely, Trichinopoly, Malabar, Wynaud, Tanjore, and Chingleput; one of the authorities represents the number of the slaves in Malabar and Canara alone at 180,000, which is so extravagantly large that we conclude he has blended all the servile classes together.

This investigation was attended with beneficial effects. The Board of Revenue took into immediate consideration certain propositions for the present amelioration and gradual emancipation of this unhappy class; and they observe in their report, that a regulation ought to be published to prevent the further extension of slavery; that the further purchase of free females as slaves should be declared invalid and illegal, and all children subsequently born of slaves should be declared free. They also suggested that slaves should have power to purchase their liberty at the price for which it was forfeited; and that such as were attached to lands or estates which may escheat to government should be liberated.

We are not cognizant of what has since been done by the Madras Government

in this matter; but we have not the least scruple in believing that, with the disposition which that government evinced to check slavery, aided by the antipathy entertained by the tribunals and by the executive officers of the government towards the hateful relation, that it must have been materially ameliorated, and that the numbers subject to its bonds must have been greatly diminished.

To obviate a misapprehension into which some persons have fallen and may still fall, it should be observed that sugar is not cultivated in the Southern provinces: rice and other grain, which are easily raised, constitute the chief agricultural products in the slave districts.

Such then is the state of slavery in Hindustan, or at least under our two principal presidencies, for we have not the means of knowing its extent and character in the provinces under the Bombay Government. The writer we have quoted in an early part of this article observes:

Hindustan is now thrown upon its actual stock, and the number of slaves can henceforth only be kept up by the multiplication of the race amongst themselves, and purchase amongst the people of the country: the latter must become rare in proportion as the means of subsistence abound, and on the demand for free labour, co-extensive with extended cultivation and commerce; the former is therefore the only means to be relied on, and this will scarcely be equal to counteract the natural waste of life in a servile station, and the manumission of slaves by the piety and indulgence of their owners. Personal regard must frequently prompt emancipation, and both the Hindu and Mohammedan codes recommend it as an act of religion. Persons in reduced circumstances, unable to keep a number of slaves, prefer emancipating to selling them; for having been held a part of the family, it is regarded as highly disreputable to offer them for sale.*

In Ceylon we meet, indeed, with slavery: but this curse seems to have been inflicted upon the population by the European invaders of the island. From the testimony of the ancient Romans, who undoubtedly had some intercourse, direct or indirect, with Ceylon, and probably a settlement there, we learn that slaves were not found in it at that period. *In Taprobana*, says Pliny,† *servum nemini*; and there exists no direct proofs,‡ we believe, to contradict this assertion. It is said that Gautama, the last Buddha, sold his children into slavery to expiate a certain crime. But if Europe introduced the bane, it has also furnished the antidote. By the strenuous and judicious endeavours of Sir Alexander Johnston, late Chief Justice of Ceylon (whose many services to that island are stamped upon the grateful minds of the Cingalese, and deserve more applause in this country than the unobtrusive character of their author has procured for him) the gradual extinction of slavery was effectually provided for. The importation of slaves was forbidden; the purchase of a slave by a British European in the service of government freed the individual *ipso facto*; and at length the Dutch slave-holders (many of whom were reduced to such straits that they depended for subsistence upon the hire of their slaves, and to whom such a sacrifice was therefore severe) were prevailed upon (to use their own words) "to disencumber themselves, as far as possible, of that unnatural character of being proprietors of human beings." At a general meeting of the owners of slaves, it was agreed, that all children born of slaves, after the 10th day of August 1816, should be free, and should be educated and maintained by the owners of their parents till the age of fourteen.

By

* Oriental Mag. No. VII, p. 121.

† Nat. Hist. lib. vi, c. 24. Ed. Hard.

‡ We say *direct proofs*, because it would be impossible to deny that there are presumptions adverse to the assertion.

By the efforts of the late Sir Stamford Raffles, of Sir Hudson Lowe, and other public functionaries, the blot of slavery which other European nations had introduced at Bencoolen, Saint Helena,* and Malacca, is gradually disappearing.

At the Mauritius and the Cape of Good Hope, slavery, not of an eastern but of a western character, subsists, nor is there any provision made for its annihilation, beyond the interdiction of further supply, as in the American islands. The close resemblance which the slavery of the Mauritius bears to that in the West-Indies, has, in fact, entitled that island to participate in the privileges conceded to our western colonies, from which the other portions of our eastern territory are debarred: so that it would really seem as if our Legislature granted a premium upon negro slavery!

We think it unnecessary to bestow more than a cursory glance upon the condition of slavery in the other eastern countries, of whose institutions it forms, almost without exception, a constituent part.

In Burmah, Siam, and the Indo-Chinese countries generally, slavery, from various causes, prevails to a considerable degree. A fruitful and legitimate source of bondage amongst these nations is war. Captives are enslaved for ever as a matter of course, and most of the public works are performed (especially in Siam) by captives, who labour, like the convicts of European nations, in chains. The utility of this institution has naturally led to the extension of the practice; and it has been one object of the late mission of Capt. Burney to the Siamese court to put a stop to the practice of kidnapping on the frontiers of the (now) British possessions which adjoin those of Siam, and a prodigious number of unhappy creatures have been liberated by his interposition. According to Mr. Finlayson,† debtors in Siam are reduced to slavery, if they have not the means of satisfying the demands of their creditors. Dr. Leyden tells us that the ruling race in Siam call themselves *Tai*, which signifies *free-men*.†

The familiarity which Europeans in general have with the idea of a regularly graduated scale in society, prevents them from recollecting that eastern despotism recognizes no intermediate ranks between master and servant, or to use an apter expression, *slave*. In the extensive countries where the Arabic and its cognate dialects are spoken, the term *gholaum*, or *slave*, is used as *humble servant* with us, except that in the latter case it is always complimentary; whereas in the former, so far from being invariably a mere affectation of humility, the epithet is often a designation which denotes the exact condition of the speaker. Even in China, the Tartar statesmen in writing to the Emperor, use the phrase *noo-tsac*, that is *slave* (or possessed of no better abilities and qualifications than a slave) for the pronoun *I*.

The subject of slavery in China demands, however, some particular notice. According to Chinese authors, crime was the origin of slavery in China; the slaves of the present day are descended from the criminals of antiquity. "In ancient times," says Chow-le, "men and women who committed crimes became the property of government, and were made slaves. Ke-tsze was made a slave; he having affected madness, was therefore thus degraded." The same cause continues to consign persons to bondage. The existing government frequently sentences even light offenders to slavery: criminals are often given

as

* About a year ago, the proprietors of slaves in St. Helena offered to emancipate their slaves at once, provided an equivalent were given to them by the Company.

† Mission to Siam and Hué, p. 157.

‡ Asiat. Res. vol. x. p. 241

as slaves to the soldiery. But human beings may now be purchased into slavery, in China, though it is stated that the term *noo*, or *slave*, is not applicable by law to such as are bought with money: a very judicious distinction, considering the causes of this odious transfer, which generally proceeds from destitution. The poor often sell themselves or their children into slavery: in times of scarcity a lad may be bought for the value of half a dollar. Household female servants in China are mostly slaves.*

The laws against slaves are severe: according to the *Ta-tsing-leih-le*, "all male or female slaves who use abusive language to the head of the family shall be strangled; all slaves who strike the head of the family, whether they be principals or accomplices (in insubordination), shall every one be decapitated; all slaves and hired labourers who debauch their master's wife or daughters, shall every one be decapitated without respite."

Such is the law: but it would appear that Chinese slaves are treated leniently. The writers of China inculcate this as a duty. "Slaves and servants," says an ancient author,—“use them with indulgence. Wives are exhorted to treat with clemency slaves, both men and women.” In the Chinese scale of virtues and vices, to take slaves and at every frivolous offence to scold them vehemently, is rated as *one* fault for every fit of scolding; to refuse the ransom of male and female slaves, is rated at *fifty* faults; to observe they are ill and not to relieve them, but to require severe labour as usual from them, is set down at *one hundred* faults.†

We here bring our review of the subject of eastern slavery to a close. It will be seen that the relation, odious as it appears to us, was engrafted upon the institutions of oriental nations at a very early period of society, to which it was adapted; that it has been diffused, in process of time, throughout the whole eastern world, acquiring peculiarities of character, in regard to its causes and its effects, according to the various habits of the respective people which recognized the relation; and it will also, it is hoped, be seen that in origin, in character, and in every essential circumstance, it is altogether dissimilar to what is termed negro-slavery, the shocking characteristics of which it would be perhaps invidious, and is certainly needless to particularize.

That slavery is a disgusting institution must be admitted on all hands; but it is by an analysis of its actual nature, not by the mere term, that we should be governed in speaking of it, wheresoever we find it. What is the condition of convicts transported for life to our settlements in Australasia, but a species of slavery? they are the *property* of government, the produce of their labour is not their own, but their master's; they are farmed out to individuals, like cattle; and they have not the power of redeeming themselves. Yet the voice of humanity has never protested against this species of bondage; on the contrary, it is strenuously raised in recommendation of it, as a merciful substitute for the sacrifice of human life.

Nor must we suppose that slavery is without its advantages, its benefits, to the enslaved person, particularly in the East. A Hindu, who would coldly see his free fellow-creature starve without extending the hand of charity towards him, is interested in sustaining his slave, and can be compelled by law to do it. What are the terrors of perpetual slavery compared with the horrors of a dearth in India, where the lower classes have no chattels, clothes, and other articles of trifling value, by the sale of which the labourers of England can

protract

* *Cream*, in the Chinese language, has a name which is compounded of *slave*, because it attends upon tea! This circumstance shows the domestic nature of Chinese slavery.

† *Dr. Morrison's Dict. in rad. NAV.*

protract the approach of want in times of scarcity, which, when it comes, only drives them to a workhouse—an establishment unknown in Hindustan? Far be it from us to palliate slavery; it ought to be abolished, as soon as practicable, by every Christian ruler; but our object is to urge that the *term* is improperly calculated to include *things* essentially different.

That slavery has its fascinations amongst Europeans subject to it, even in modern times, is demonstrated in the elaborate report of Mr. Jacob.* In Poland, the peasants, who are slaves, by the constitution, of 1791, were enfranchised. But the peasants viewed this boon at first with great distrust; they were “alarmed by the apprehension that in age or sickness, or other incapacity, they should be abandoned by their lords, and left to perish in want.” Mr. Jacob adds: “though no longer slaves, the condition of the peasants is but little practically improved by the change that has been made in their condition. When a transfer is made, either by testament or conveyance, the persons of the peasants are not, indeed, expressly conveyed, but their services are, and in many instances are the most valuable part of the property.”

* Report on the Trade in Corn, &c. of the North of Europe; 1826.

SUTTEES.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: IN your brief sketch of the proceedings at the East-India House discussion of the 28th March last, your reporter* has inadvertently conveyed the impression that a statement was given by myself, and those gentlemen who (with me) advocated the suppression of human sacrifices in India, that the resolution which we proposed did not contemplate the employment of compulsory measures in any future instance.

Such a pledge undoubtedly was *required* by the Hon. Chairman, in the first instance; but, upon his receiving an assurance that, although we were unfeignedly opposed to the employment of force, at the present time, as believing it wholly unnecessary, it was impossible that we could come under any pledge for the future, the hon. Chairman withdrew the amendment which he had proposed, and the original resolution was adopted in its stead.

The necessity of our having pursued the course in question will be obvious to you, on considering that the equivocal nature of the condition proposed could not but preclude a compliance with it, inasmuch as some persons might consider as “the employment of force,” the half-yearly attendance of the military at Saugor, under which, the sacrifice of children there has been notoriously prevented, from the administration of Marquess Wellesley down to the present time: a measure, the wisdom and expediency of which can no longer admit of doubt in any quarter.

I have, &c.

JOHN POYNTER.

New Bridge Street, 17th April 1827.

* The sketch was not drawn up by our reporter; so that the inadvertency must be attributed to us. We are bound to say, however, that our impression, and that of others present at the debate, was that the pledge was given. This, we now conclude, must be a mistake.—*Ed.*

GREEK AFFAIRS.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR:—As you have occasionally bestowed some attention upon Greek affairs, you will not perhaps refuse a place to this letter.

I cannot conceal my astonishment that the subject of the first Greek loan should be suffered to sleep after the disclosures which have been made, and that the Greek Committee at large should not think it incumbent upon them to institute a thorough investigation into it. Enough has been *published* to show a *prima facie* case of shameful misconduct; and the apathy of the committee, so far from resigning to exclusive odium (if such be their intention) those whose names have been connected with the imputed misconduct, is calculated to lead jealous-minded men to suspect that the imputation is more generally applicable. Setting aside the claims which the bondholders and the unfortunate Greeks have upon all who have acted as committee-men, a regard for truth, for justice, for their own character, ought to have long ago stimulated some of the members to activity.

The chief object of this letter is, to make a strong appeal to these backward members to come forward, and if the public mind is deluded, and the conduct of the commissioners has not been culpable, to show it; or, if they deserve censure, to state what steps have been taken to repair the effects of such misconduct.

The public know not who were the active members of the Greek committee. I find, in the notable article on Greek affairs published in the *Westminster Review*, for July 1826, that an important communication was made to the Greek government, on the 12th June 1824, in the form of a remonstrance. As such a measure was not probably adopted without the concurrence of all the effective members, we may assume, I think, that most of them signed the document. The copy of it, in the *Review*, bears the following names: Mr. Hume, M.P. (in the chair); Lord Milton, M.P.; Mr. John Cam Hobhouse, M.P.; Col. Rob. L. Dundas; Col. Leslie Grove Jones; Mr. John Williams, M.P.; Col. Davies, M.P.; Col. J. Young; Lieut. Gen. Robt. Long; Mr. C. B. Sheridan; Dr. John B. Gilchrist; Mr. J. S. Buckingham; Capt. G. H. Dundas, R.N.; Mr. H. L. Bulwer; Mr. John Wilks; Mr. John Smith, M.P.; and Mr. John Bowring.

Amongst these, are individuals who talk and write, till the public are sickened and disgusted, upon imaginary wrongs, and fictitious cases of mismanagement, yet maintain an obstinate reserve upon a glaring case of political injustice, respecting which the public would be very glad to listen to them. Has Mr. Buckingham in his *Oriental Herald*, or Dr. Gilchrist in his speeches and voluminous writings, so much as touched upon this topic, notwithstanding the imputations against their colleagues, if not against themselves? Are they content that men should say of them, in the language of Persius, that they point at holes in other people's coats, whilst their own or their comrades' garments are in tatters?*

My design, Mr. Editor, is not to bring accusation against any one, but to call upon some candid member of the Greek committee, to disclose what he ought to know respecting a matter of which the public are improperly kept in ignorance.

Your's, ARISTIDES.

* If our correspondent refers to the following passage in Persius, his paraphrase is rather free:

Ut nemo in sese tentat descendere, nemo:

Sed præcedenti spectatur mantica tergo!—Ed.

GREAT BUCHARIA, OR BOKHARA.

THE Russians are the only people of Europe whose intercourse with the states of Upper Asia has afforded the means of obtaining an accurate account of the geography and modern history of those countries; amongst which Great Bucharia, or Bokhara, is perhaps, on many accounts, one of the most interesting. In a preceding volume of this journal * we inserted an historical sketch of the sovereigns of this state, given in a Russian periodical work, called the *Asiatsky Vestnik*, or *Asiatic Courier*; and we add the following geographical and statistical details, respecting its actual condition and limits, from the same source.†

Bokhara is surrounded by chains of mountains: on the north-east is the Kara-Tag (black mountain); and on the west, is the Ak-Tag (white mountain); the former is a branch of the lofty mountains of Tibet; and the latter proceeds from the Balkan range, a prolongation of the Caucasus. Several other mountains, separated from the principal branches, penetrate even into the interior of Bokhara; such are the Karnab, between Baganz and Kermin, from the top of which flow several streams, which irrigate a well cultivated country; the Gargan, between Kermin and Nour-At; the Hazem-Nour, where is to be seen the tomb of an individual esteemed by the Bokharians as a saint; the Kara-Tesse, near the Orontes on the side of Samarcand, and upon the summit of which is a fort. All these mountains are situated to the eastward and south-eastward of Bokhara: to the west of Diyak extends a long chain, and to the north-west are mounts Kinguis, Assouman, Rizman, Nerdran, and Ourmitaneh, near the town of Jarza.

The sandy tract, called Kizil-Kouma (red sands), which commences at the desert of the Kirgheeze Kaissaks, extends over a vast space between the rivers Zer-Efshan and Syr, westward of Bokhara, almost to the chain of the Kara-Tag. These sands have been probably formed from time immemorial by the fall and decomposition of the mountains of stone.

There is in Bokhara but a single lake known of any remarkable dimensions; this is the Kara-Koul, or black lake, near the town so named. It was formerly connected with the river Syr, and its waters were so abundant that it overflowed the environs: but in the course of time it has been separated from that river, and it now communicates with the Zer-Efshan.

The principal rivers of Bokhara are the following:—1st. The Amou-Daria, formerly the Oxus, or Jihoon. It derives its source from the district of Serguei-Sougnau, a day's journey from Mount Kiani-Lal (mine of rubies), and receives the waters of six rivers; the Bedak-Khan, the Derviz, the Hingvab, the Valia, the Karategan, and the Hissan,‡ all of which are formed, in a great measure, by the melting of snow. This river discharges itself into the sea of Aral by two arms known by the names of the great and little Amou-Daria. Its breadth in Bokhara is nearly a verst, or farsang of the country. Its current is gentle, its banks sandy, but well-wooded. 2d. The Syr Daria (red river), formerly the Jaxartes, or Sihoon, comes from the mountains called Beloor-Tag, and after receiving the waters of a great number of streams, discharges itself into the sea of Aral by three branches, which form three separate rivers, named the Syr, the Kouban, and the Yana. The current of this river

* *Asiat. Journ.* vol. xxii, p. 365. An account of Bokhara, the capital, from an Indian paper, may be seen in the same volume, p. 262.

† *Bullet. Univer. of Paris*, Jan. 1827, No. 83, p. 105.

‡ The names of these rivers do not correspond with those in our maps.

river is rapid; its breadth and its depth are equal to those of the Ural. It has been supposed, from the accounts of ancient geographers, that the two rivers now spoken of at one time discharged themselves into the Caspian sea, and that their present course has been the result of extraordinary labour, or of an earthquake, which, by elevating the land at their embouchures, created the sea of Aral itself, of which the ancients had no idea. But it is more probable that the sea was formed by the more elevated waters of a part of the Caspian sea. 3d. The Zer-Efshan (river of gold), anciently the Polytimetus, springs from a chain of mountains situated to the eastward of Samarcand, and passes near that city, as well as Degboud, Miankal, Kate-Kourgan, Katarji, Panaguenda, Kermin, and Zia-Voudin, traversing then the districts of Vagantz, Guizdovan, Vardantz, and Sultanabad; it forms the river of Vafkand, which is lost in the canals cut for the purpose of irrigating the villages of Ramitan, Zendami, and Vafkand. It there receives the name of the Dooab, or double river,—the Shroud and Roudi-istm-Bokhara; for it is divided into two branches, whereof one waters the environs of Bokhara, and the other falls into lake Kara-Koul.

The possessions of the Khan of Bokhara, Emir Hyder Emir-ul-Moumanin, consist of the following:

Bokhara, the capital, situated in a vast plain, on a canal, called Zekh-Kan, which communicates with the Shroud, one of the branches of the Zer-Efshan. It is surrounded with a wall, containing twelve gates, defended on each side by round towers. The wall is of earth and clay, except the gates and towers, which are built of brick. Bokhara is a handsome city, containing as many as 360 mosques, all constructed of brick. Each mosque has its iman or moollah, and also a crier to call the people to prayers. There are likewise seventy-five madrissas, or schools, built of stone; one of them was erected at the cost of the Empress Catherine II, by the exertions of Ir Nazar Maxioutof, ambassador from the Khan of Bokhara to St. Petersburg, in 1779. The number of moollahs, or priests, amounts to 2,000, and that of the students to 4,550.

The streets of Bokhara are narrow, dirty, and ill-paved. The houses are of clay. The whole city is divided into 400 quarters, containing fifty houses, each including three families. If we reckon four individuals of both sexes in each family, the population of Bokhara will consist of 240,000 inhabitants; and if we add to this number the moollahs and students, as well as more than 1,500 men dispersed in the caravans, and 1,200 Jews, the population will amount to 249,250 souls.

The palace of the khan, by reason of its antiquity, is one of the most remarkable monuments in Bokhara. It is erected upon a small eminence in a place known by the name of Rignastan, that is, *Sandy*, and surrounded by a high wall. It has only a single gate, flanked with towers fifteen sagenas high. It is alleged that it was built about ten centuries ago by order of Khan Kizil-arslan (red lion). Opposite to the palace are the only public place and the only two markets in the city. This place contains also two madrissas and two mosques, of which one called Merzedi-Keian, or the great mosque, erected under the same khan, is reckoned to be the most ancient in all Bokhara. Kizil-arslan Khan also built, they say, a tower of stone, thirty sagenas in height, which bears the name of Menar, or Mirgarab; this is the finest building in the city.

The towns which are in the vicinity of Bokhara, and belong to the Khan, are, 1st, Peikend, situated on one of the arms of the river Zer-Efshan, five farsangs

farsangs and a half from Bokhara, and one farsang from the ancient city of that name; it forms alone an entire district; its inhabitants, at the season of the north winds, suffer much from the vast quantity of sand which fills the air: 2d, Abguiri-Cahir-Abar, together with Shagri-Islam, may be considered to form part of Bokhara; the chief portion of their territory belongs to the Khan's treasury; the soil yields abundance of cotton: 3, Ramitan is rich in herbs: Zendami includes lands farmed out to individuals for a very small tribute; this sort of possessions is called Guiraji: Vafkand and Pirmessa compose a district of themselves: the soil is fertile, and produces an abundance of a plant named *rouien*, which affords a scarlet colour, yielding to the sovereign an annual revenue of 1,600 roubles: Vardanzi and Sultanabad constitute a district composed almost wholly of Guiraji; the latter abounds in pasturage: Guizdovan is not so much a town as the surname of another: Karakoul, situated upon the lake of that name: Vaganzi is farmed out by the crown to private persons; its meadows are rich in grass.

The dependencies of Bokhara are, 1st, Shinbi, Cahir-Jivum, and Kalti, which extend from the bridge of Minster Kassim, built on the Zer-Efshan, to the town of Aderkhai-Bokhara: 2d, Shindala, Roudi-Bokhara, and Roudi-Shekhr, situated to the north of Bokhara, from Kioushi-Mesir to Soulakian; at Roudi-Shekhr is a spot named Gourboun, which is considered as the nursery of all the fruit trees dispersed throughout Bokhara: 3d, Jeroubi-Roudi-Shekhr, to the south of Bokhara.

The dependencies of Miano-Kalai are, 1st, Kerminah, watered by four streams, two called Migni, and two called Joui-Kanim; there are no habitations to be seen in the environs of the former, which the Karakalpaks and other Tartar tribes have chosen for the scene of their nomade life; there is to be seen there, also, the fortress of Yani-Kourgan, belonging to the Topshee Bashee (chief of the artillery): 2d, Zai-Biden, a cantonment peopled by Usbeks, and comprehending the fortresses of Kate-Kourgan, Katarji, Penshinbah, and Ourgunj, inhabited by genuine Bokharians, or Tajiks, who speak Persian; the other inhabitants of Bokhara derive their names from the place where they are settled, and the mountaineers are called Saklirans.

The places situated to the eastward of Bokhara, and subject to it, are, 1st, Karshi, or Naksheb, a large fortified town on the Karta, one of the branches of the river Sarsab; it is inhabited by Usbeks and Tajiks, and includes within its district Meïmenek, Kassan, and Khoja-Mourabek: 2d, Gouzar, a tolerably large and strong town: 3d, Shirabad: 4th, Chizak: 5th, Mitinah: 6th, Ourmitaneh and Jarza.

To the west of Bokhara is Ourti, a fortified town, having its own chief; dependent upon it are, 1st, Gujikanet, consisting of several villages which furnish salt to the seven districts of Bokhara: 2d, Ilji, a dependency of Ourti-Garaj. The commandant of Ourti receives for his revenue that of the four ferries across the Amou, the amount of which is 24,000 roubles.

The places situated on the left bank of the Amou subject to Bokhara are, 1st, Karshi, inhabited, chiefly, by nomade Toorkomans, a very considerable number of whom have settled upon the right bank of the Amou, in the villages of Beshir, Mekn, Bourdalik, Koutnim, Pervend, and Assekiz; the Toorkomans pay 80,000 roubles a year to the Khan of Bokhara, for permission to drink of the waters of the Amou; but the Nomade tribes of Talars are exempt from this tribute: 2d, Charjouï, a large town, surrounded by walls, inhabited by the same people: 3d, Marvah, which has two chiefs and a garrison of 1,000 men, half of whom are displaced every three months by troops sent from Bokhara;

one of the chiefs is an Usbeg, the other a Calmuck ; they receive every three months 1,000 ducats of Bokhara under the title of emoluments.*

The population of the state of Bokhara is principally composed of Usbegs, Toorkomans, and indigenous Bokharians or Tajiks. The latter are the most ancient race, and were established in the country under Shah Jemshed of Persia. But the Tajiks are only those Bokharians who dwell in towns ; those of the desert bear the name of Iliants, or nomade Turks. The Usbegs derive their origin from one Khosref Khan, who wandered with his son, Usbeg Khan, in the deserts of the great Kirghecz horde, between Siberia and China. They gained the supremacy over all the Usbeg tribes placed since the time of Genghis Khan in the steppes of the horde called Deshti Kipchaks ; but under Bayan Kouli Khan, chief of the Bokharians, and father of Tamerlane, a descendant of Genghis Khan, part of the Usbegs voluntarily migrated to Bokhara ; the remainder were carried thither by Toorke-Begadir, one of the officers of Bayan ; Kouli Khan and all of them abjured idolatry in order to embrace Mohammedanism. At present the Usbegs dwell to the eastward of Bokhara ; they pass the summer under their tents, and the winter in their towns and villages. They are distributed into ninety-two tribes, the most considerable of which are these : the Kaman-Bavours, the Kara-Mongols (from which tribe the present Khan of Bokhara derives his origin) the Tok-Mongols, and the Ak-Mongols. It is said that by taking an individual from each family, an army of 100,000 Usbegs might be raised.

There are, moreover, in the dependant provinces of Bokhara, 5,000 Arab families (white), about 1,000 Afghans in the service of the Khan, and as many as 40,000 Persian (*qu.* Russian ?) slaves. The Jews have been long established in this country : independently of women and children, there are of this nation 500 at Bokhara, fifty at Samarcand, and twenty at Hissar. They are divided into four classes, for the collection of the capitation tax ; the first class pays nine roubles sixty copeks every three months ; the second, four roub. eighty cop. ; the third, two roub. forty cop. They are exempt from every other contribution, besides the customs on the transit of merchandize.

To the number of the inhabitants of Bokhara must also be added 1,000 Tartar refugees from the Russian frontiers. There were at one time 2,000 ; but half that number took advantage of the amnesty granted in the manifesto of 1815, and hastened back to their native country.

There are in Bokhara about 200 Indians of Sakarpour and Scind, as well as fifty Sikhs of Moultan and the provinces of the Punjab, who have come to follow commercial pursuits. One of the caravanserais and covered markets is constantly occupied by merchants of one or other of these two people, who are distinguished from each other, by the former painting themselves between the eye-brows and shaving the head, preserving only a lock of hair on each side of the temples ; whilst the other cut neither their hair nor their nails.

According to the confession of the Bokharians themselves, their trade with Russia is very advantageous, and much more important than that which they carry on with any other country ; for it is from Russia alone that they receive a considerable quantity of gold and silver in exchange for their goods, besides cochineal and blue, which are indispensable articles for dyeing their stuffs. The Russians furnish them also with eider-down, copper in leaf, and plates of the

* This follows a statistical table of the population, productions, and revenue of Bokhara, but it is too imperfect to be of use, or to supply new information.

the thickness of a finger, iron in bars and sheets, steel, and cast iron. Besides cotton, the Bokharians send to Russia manufactured articles of all kinds, Cashmere shawls, lamb-skins, rhubarb and fruits. Like the Jews, they travel to Cashgar and other Bokharian towns, where they exchange their lamb-skins for the silk stuffs, cotton and porcelain of China, tea and rhubarb.

Nearly all the cotton which the Bokharians send to Russia they obtain from Sarsab. It sells in Bokhara for fourteen roubles the poud; and once conveyed beyond the frontiers it is worth as much as forty roubles. It is in the same city that the Jew merchants and Bokharians exchange cotton and rice for women's stockings and the native-made shawls from the price of seven to eight roubles. The best come from Samarcand, and those of inferior quality from Sarsab. The two latter sort cost seventy roubles the pond, and one hundred and ten roubles when brought to Russia. The cotton of Mianka, as well as the inferior sort from Samarcand, is purchased on the spot for from forty-five to fifty-five roubles, and pays about eighty roubles duty. The low qualities, called *Sandar* and *Mezdizan*, cost upon the spot from forty to forty-five roubles, and fetch in Russia from sixty to seventy.

A considerable quantity of silk is raised in Bokhara; the inhabitants of a great number of towns and villages are employed in bringing up the worms which yield it. The total quantity of silk produced amounts to 470 pounds: for 30,000 batman of unbleached silk yield 300,000 lbs of pure silk, and when it is washed in water, there remains but the 16th part (?) or 18,780 lbs. equivalent to 1,870 batmen, or 469½ pounds.*

All the productions of Bokhara are sold by the batman of weight, of eight pounds; but the batman of silk is only ten lbs. The lowest price of unbleached silk is thirteen paper roubles per eight batman or twenty lbs.; and the highest is sixteen roubles per batman. The batman of wrought silk sells for twelve or thirteen ducats of Bokhara, or from 192 to 208 paper roubles.†

The number of cattle is very considerable in Bokhara; for besides camels, horses, and oxen, there are many sheep, especially amongst the Usbegs and Toorkomans; the Bokharians make an advantageous branch of commerce of sheep. Of all the inhabitants of Bokhara, the Usbegs are those who possess the greatest number of horses.

The weights and measures of Bokhara are as follow:—

The batman equal to 8 pounds	Namsar equal to ...10 lbs.
Half batman 4	Charak 5
Delsar 2	Namsah 1¼
Pendsar 1	Namsnamsah..... ½
Derandsar ½	Pendmiskal30 zolotniks.

Bokharian merchandize is sold by the arsheen of the country (bez), which is equal to a half sarena; those goods which come from Russia are measured by the Russian arsheen.

There are three sorts of coin current in Bokhara: the ducat of gold or tilla (fifteen paper roubles); the tenka of silver (about forty copeks); and the poulo of copper (two copeks). The gold coin is struck upon the Dutch ducat, or gold procured from the sands of the Amou, the Zer-Efshan, and Badakshan. As to the silver coin, the metal is from the crowns, and especially from the Chinese yamba.‡

* The poud contains forty Russian pounds, of 13 oz. each.

† The rouble is worth 2s. 6d.; the paper rouble, about 10d.

‡ The names in this article are mostly left by the translator in the state he found them in the original, except that the Russian terminations are occasionally retrenched.

SERVIAN POETRY.

THE inquisitive spirit which actuates modern scholars could not perhaps be exemplified more strikingly than by the appearance of a volume of Servian poetry in an English dress.* A countryman of Pope and Gray must be impelled by an ardent curiosity and a sanguine temper to cultivate an intimacy with the Slavonian muse, and to indulge even a hope that the poetical stores of his native country could acquire any addition by the most active research amongst the traditionary ballads of an obscure people, half Christian half Musulman, whose abject condition has encouraged etymologists to deduce from their national designation the degrading appellation of *slave*.†

Mr. Bowring, however, tempted by his success in excursions not much less unpromising, has explored the bleak and barren wilds of Servian literature, and from the collections of Karadjich Vuk, Dosithei Obradovich, and others whose cacophonic names would be equally strange to an ordinary reader, he has culled a handful of wild-flowers, which, though they boast but little fragrance, and are utterly devoid of beauty, may be prized as exotics by the curious, and admired perhaps by a few for their unobtrusive simplicity.

An "Introduction" to the poems, which is decidedly the best portion of the book, affords a very necessary insight into the past history and present condition of that branch of the Slavonian race which now subsists under the name of Servians. The remote origin of this people is wrapt in darkness: their literature exhibits no traces of a date earlier than the thirteenth century; indeed, with the exception of a few religious books, written in the old church Slavonian tongue, no work of the slightest interest appeared in Servia, we are told, till the end of the seventeenth century. The remark which Dobrowsky applies to the signification of the Servian name, may with propriety be transferred to the origin of the people, "*nondum licuit eruere.*"

At the end of the ninth century the Servians were tributaries of the Greeks, against whom, in the twelfth century, they rebelled, but were subdued by Comnenus; they revolted again, and were again quelled by Isaac Angelos. Subsequently they became subject to Hungary, and in 1389 were conquered by Sultan Amurath, at Kossova; since which period no dawn of liberty has beamed upon Servia. Alternately the thralls of the Turks and the Hungarians, the miserable remnant of this people, whose country had been the theatre of bloody wars, at length found comparative repose beneath the Austrian yoke. Servia was released from Turkish sway at the beginning of the present century, and is now governed by a knes, or prince, under the protection of the Emperor of Austria.

By the successive transmutations of character which the Servians have undergone through these frequent changes, they have lost the distinguishing traits which identify a nation: even their language is a mongrel tongue, depraved (or *enriched*, as Mr. Bowring terms it,) by an admixture of various foreign idioms, oriental as well as occidental. It is true, Mr. Bowring, who understands more of this matter than we profess to know, describes the Servian language as "the most cultivated, the most interesting, and the most widely spread of all the southern Slavonian dialects;" as modified and mel-
lowed by the Greek and Latin; and as "softened down into a perfect instrument for poetry and music!" He adds, as true, a fanciful character of the
language

* *Servian Popular Poetry*, translated by John Bowring. 1 vol. 12mo. 1827.

† See Gibbon's History, vol. i. c. 56. Some derive the Servian name from the Latin *servus*.

language from Schaffarik, who says, that "Servian song resembles the tune of the violin; old Slavonian, that of the organ; Polish, that of the guitar. The old Slavonian in its psalms sounds like the loud rush of the mountain-stream; the Polish like the bubbling and sparkling of a fountain; and the Servian like the quiet murmuring of a streamlet in the valley." No language, however dissonant, has not, at some time or other, found an advocate who vindicated its musical properties. An uninitiated person could scarcely look at an assemblage of words in the Servian tongue without some sympathetic convulsions of the larynx.

Mr. Bowring's delineation of the character of Servian poetry, which discovers a flowing imagination, prepares us to expect much more than we find in it :

The earliest poetry of the Servians has a heathenish character; that which follows is leagued with Christian legends. But holy deeds are always made the condition of salvation. The whole nation, to use the idea of Göthe, is imaged in poetical superstition. Events are brought about by the agency of angels, but the footsteps of Satan can be nowhere traced;—the dead are often summoned from their tombs;—awful warnings, prophecies, and birds of evil omen, bear terror to the minds of the most courageous.

Over all is spread the influence of a remarkable, and, no doubt, antique mythology. An omnipresent spirit—airy and fanciful—making its dwelling in solitudes—and ruling over mountains and forests—a being called the *Vila*, is heard to issue its irresistible mandates, and pour forth its prophetic inspiration: sometimes in a form of female beauty—sometimes a wilder Diana—now a goddess gathering or dispersing the clouds, and now an owl among ruins and ivy. The *Vila*, always capricious, and frequently malevolent, is a most important actor in all the popular poetry of Servia. The *Trica Polonica* is sacred to her. She is equally renowned for the beauty of her person and the swiftness of her step:—"Fair as the mountain *Vila*," is the highest compliment to a Servian lady—"Swift as the *Vila*," is the most eloquent eulogium on a Servian steed.

Of the amatory poems of the Servians, Göthe justly remarks, that, when viewed all together, they cannot but be deemed of singular beauty; they exhibit the expressions of passionate, overflowing, and contented affection; they are full of shrewdness and spirit; delight and surprise are admirably portrayed; and there is, in all, a marvellous sagacity in subduing difficulties and in obtaining an end; a natural, but at the same time vigorous and energetic tone; sympathies and sensibilities, without wordy exaggeration, but which, notwithstanding, are decorated with poetical imagery and imaginative beauty; a correct picture of Servian life and manners,—every thing, in short, which gives to passion the force of truth, and to external scenery the character of reality.

It seems that the poetry of Servia was wholly traditional until within a very few years; that it was preserved chiefly by the lower classes of the people, in songs which were accompanied by a three-stringed instrument, called a *gusle*; that the collection made by Vuk, entitled *Narodne Srpske Pjesme*, from whence most of Mr. Bowring's translations are made, was committed to paper by the compiler from early recollections, or from the repetition of Servian minstrels; and that all the poetry of Servia is anonymous.

The historical ballads, which are in lines composed of five trochaics, are always sung with the accompaniment of the *gusle*. At the end of every verse, the singer drops his voice, and mutters a short cadence. The emphatic passages are chaunted in a louder tone. "I cannot describe," says Wessely, "the pathos with which these songs are sometimes sung. I have witnessed crowds surrounding a blind old singer, and every
check

cheek was wet with tears—it was not the music, it was the words which affected them.” As this simple instrument, the gusle, is never used but to accompany the poetry of the Servians, and as it is difficult to find a Servian who does not play upon it, the universality of their popular ballads may be well imagined.

We now lay before the reader some specimens of this poetry, premising that in the narrative poems the original measure is preserved, and that the sense is stated to be faithfully rendered by the translator, who has further assimilated his copy to the original by rejecting rhyme, which is seldom used by the Servians. We begin with the shortest of the narrative poems :

DUKA LEKA.

Yesterday was married Duka Leka :
Comes to-day a mandate from the emperor :
“ Duka ! on—on, Leka ! to the army.”
Duka’s steed caparisons he quickly ;—
His love holds him by the bridle, weeping :—
“ Woe is me !—woe’s me ! thou voivode Leka !
Goest thou with thy noble steed to battle,
Leav’st alone thy young bride inexperienced ?”
‘ With thy mother, and with mine I leave thee.’
“ Woe is me ! woe’s me ? thou voivode Leka !—
Thee away—and what avail two mothers ?”

Duka Leka arms him for the battle :
His young bride stands by his courser, weeping :—
“ Woe is me ! woe’s me ! thou voivode Leka !
Goest thou with thy noble steed to battle ?
And with whom dost leave thy bride untutored ?”
‘ With thy father, and with mine I leave thee.’
“ Woe, my Duka ! woe ! thou voivode Leka !—
Thee away—and what avail two fathers ?”

Duka Leka girds him for the battle ;
Weeping holds his wife his horse’s bridle :—
“ Woe is me ! woe, Duka !—voivode Leka !
Dost equip thy good steed for the battle ?
Who shall care about the unpractised loved one ?”
‘ To thy brother, and to mine, I leave thee.’
“ Woe ! O Duka, woe ! thou voivode Leka !
Thee away—and what avail two brothers ?”

The reader will probably think this an ominous commencement : more *jejune* poetry was never probably honoured by translation. We shall take, for the next specimen, a longer piece, which enjoys the distinction of having attracted the notice and admiration of Göthe, who saw it, indeed, in a French version, which he rendered into German :

HASSAN AGA’S WIFE’S LAMENT.

What’s so white upon yon verdant forest ?
Is it snow, or is it swans assembled ?
Were it snow, it surely had been melted ;
Were it swans, long since they had departed.
Lo ! it is not swans, it is not snow there :
’Tis the tent of Aga, Hassan Aga ;
He is lying there severely wounded,
And his mother seeks him, and his sister ;
But for very shame his wife is absent.

When the misery of his wounds was softened,
 Hassan thus his faithful wife commanded :
 " In my house thou shalt abide no longer—
 Thou shalt dwell no more among my kindred."
 When his wife had heard this gloomy language,
 Stiff she stood, and full of bitter sorrow.

When the horses, stamping, shook the portal,
 Fled the faithful wife of Hassan Aga—
 Fain would throw her from the castle window.
 Anxious two beloved daughters followed,
 Crying after her in tearful anguish—
 " These are not our father Hassan's coursers ;
 'Tis our uncle Pintorovich coming."

Then approached the wife of Hassan Aga—
 Threw her arms, in misery, round her brother—
 " See the sorrow, brother, of thy sister :
 He would tear me from my helpless children."

He was silent—but from out his pocket,
 Safely wrapped in silk of deepest scarlet,
 Letters of divorce he drew, and bid her
 Seek again her mother's ancient dwelling—
 Free to win and free to wed another.

When she saw the letter of divorcement,
 Kisses on her young boy's forehead, kisses
 On her girls' red cheeks she pressed—the nursling—
 For there was a nursling in the cradle—

Could she tear her, wretched, from her infant ?
 But her brother seized her hand, and led her—
 Led her swiftly to the agile courser ;
 And he hastened with the sorrowing woman
 To the ancient dwelling of her fathers.

Short the time was—not seven days had glided—
 Short indeed the time—and many a noble
 Had our lady—though in widow's garments—
 Had our lady asked in holy marriage.

And the noblest was Imoski's Cadi ;
 And our lady, weeping, prayed her brother :
 " I exhort thee, on thy life exhort thee,
 Give me not, oh, give me not in marriage !
 For the sight of my poor orphan'd children
 Sure would break the spirit of thy sister !"

Little cared her brother for her sorrows ;
 He had sworn she should espouse the Cadi.
 But his sister prayed him thus unceasing :
 " Send at least one letter, O my brother !
 With this language to Imoski's Cadi :
 ' Friendly greetings speeds the youthful woman ;
 But entreats thee, by these words entreats thee,
 When the *Suates* * shall conduct thee hither,
 Thou a long and flowing veil wilt bring me,
 That, in passing Hassan's lonely dwelling,
 I may hide me from my hapless orphans.' "

Hardly

* Conductors of the marriage festival.

Hardly had the Cadi read the letter,
Than he gather'd his Suates together,
Armed himself, and hastened t'wards the lady,
Home to bring her as his bridal treasure.

Happily he reached the princely dwelling,
Happily were all returning homeward,
When t'ward Hassan's house they were approaching,
Her two daughters saw her from the window,
Her two sons rushed on her from the portal :
And they cried, " Come hither ! O come hither !
Take thy night's repast with thine own children !"

Sorrowfully Hassan's consort heard them ;
To the Sarisvat she thus addressed her :
" Let the Suates stay, and let the horses
Tarry here at this beloved portal,
While I make a present to the children."

As they stopped at the beloved portal,
Presents gave she unto all the children.
To the boys, boots all with gold embroidered ;
To the girls, long and resplendent dresses ;
And to the poor baby in the cradle,
For the time to come, a little garment.

Near them sat their father, Hassan Aga,
And he called in sorrow to his children :
" Come to me, poor children ! to your father ;
For your mother's breast is turn'd to iron,
Closed against you, hardened 'gainst all pity."

When these words were heard by Hassan's consort,
On the ground she fell, all pale and trembling,
Till her spirit burst her heavy bosom
At the glances of her orphan children.

We add another piece which refers to the battle of Kossova, and the defeat of Lazar, the second Tsar of Servia, by Sultan Amurath, which is the subject of many melancholy ballads amongst the Servians. It is exhibited as poetry in Mr. Bowring's book, but we shall save some space by printing as prose :

FINDING OF THE HEAD OF LAZAR.

When Lazar's head, from his body severed, lay upon the battle-field Kossova, 'twas not found by any of the Servians : but a Turkish boy—a young Turk found it. 'Twas a Turk,—a Turk in slavery nurtured ; but he was the child of Servian mother ; and thus spake the Turkish boy who found it : " Hear, ye Moslems ! hear, my Turkish brethren ! this was once the head of high-ranked Servian ;* and, by God ! it were a shame and scandal if profaned by eagles or by ravens, if 'twere trod upon by man or courser." So he took the head of the holy emperor, wrapt it carefully within his mantle, bore it to a neighbouring water-fountain, and he threw it in the crystal water. There long time it lay, all unmolested : happy time ! it lay for forty summers. On Kossova lay the headless body ; but the eagles touched it not, nor ravens, nor the foot of man, nor hoof of courser ; therefore let the God of peace be worshipped ! Lo ! a caravan of youthful travellers, from the city white, the lovely Skoplja,† leading on ; both Grecians and Bulgarians travellers they, bound to Vidin and Nissa :‡ and they make

* *Ovo je ime jednog gospodara*, the head of a Hospodar ; man of high rank.

† Scupi, in Macedonia.

‡ Vidin, a large fortress in Bulgaria, on the Danube. Nissa, a large fortified city on the Servian border.

make their halting on Kossova, on Kossova take their meal as wonted; and, when thirsty, ere the meal was over, lo! they light the splinters of the fir-tree; made a torch to light them as they wander, seeking all around a water fountain. Lo! a strange and wond'rous fate awaits them! Swift they speed them to the crystal water. Then exclaimed one of the youthful travellers—"Lo! the moon is on the waters shining!" And another traveller thus retorted—"Brother! it is not the moon that shineth." But the third is silent—no word utters—turns him to the east—the sun's uprising—then he speaks, and prays to God the righteous; prays to God and to the holy Nicholas—"Help me, God! and thou, O father Nicholas!" and he sought again the fountain-water; drew the holy head from out the water—holy head of holy Servian monarch; threw it on the verdant turf, and pouring water, swiftly filled the travelling vessel. They had quenched their thirst, and all were seated—seated round the head, and looked about them. On the verdant turf it lies no longer; o'er the field the head is slowly moving—holy head seeks out the holy body; joins it, where that body lay untainted. When the dawning of the morn had broken, to the aged priests the youths reported—to the aged priests, the wond'rous story. Lo! a crowd of priests are hastening thither—crowds of ancient priests—above three hundred, and twelve high and dignified archbishops, and four patriarchs, the most exalted: him of Pecliki,* and the Tzarigrader† of Jerusalem, and Vassiljenski. All were habited in priestly vestments; camilanks their holy heads enshrouded; in their hands they held old sacred writings—and they poured their fervent prayers to heaven, and performed their holiest solemn vigils through three days, and through three nights of darkness; nor for rest they stopped, nor for refreshment, nor for sleep, nor any interruption: and they asked the holy dead, unceasing, where his grave should be—his corpse be buried; in Opövo, or in Krushedöli, or in Jässak, or in Beshenövi, or Racövat, or in Shisatövat, or in Jivski, or in Kurejdini,‡ or in distant Macedonia rather. But Lazar will choose no foreign cloister; he will lie among his own loved kindred, in his own, his beauteous Ravanitza,§ on the mountain forest, broad Kushaja, in the convent he himself erected; in his days of life and youthful glory, he erected for his soul's salvation; with his bread and with his gold he raised it; not with tears nor wealth from poor men wrested.

We must own that these narrative poems afford us but a very poor idea of the literature in which they are found. The lyrical pieces at the end of the volume are of a different character; but here we have the confession of the translator militating against the reputation of the original. "In the lyrical pieces," says Mr. Bowring, "I have allowed myself some latitude of expression." If we needed a proof of the effect produced upon this meagre poetry by a little "latitude of expression," it would be furnished by the contrast which Mr. Bowring has pointed out between his own faithful translation of some lines on "Ajuna's Marriage" (p. 28), and the embellished version of the same by a writer in the *Quarterly Review*. The following seems, not merely from its smoothness but its point, to belong to a different nation from the foregoing:

HEROES SERVED.

Upon the silent Danube's shore,
When ev'ning wastes, 'tis sweet to see
(Their golden wine cups flowing o'er);
Our heroes in their revelry.

A youthful

* Ipek, a city in Albania.

† Tzarigrader, Zargrad, the city of the Tzar—Constantinople. The four Greek patriarchs are those of Constantinople, Jerusalem, Antioch, and Alexandria. Ipek (in Servia) was the fifth patriarchate, though the first in the eyes of the Servians. Vassilenski is no other than Constantinople (Vselenski), though constantly confounded by the uninstructed.

‡ All these are Servian convents. Krushedol was founded in 1509, by Bishop Maximus Brankovics, and is celebrated in many Servian legends. It is famous for its collection of reliques.

§ A renowned convent built by the Tzar Lazar, on the Rassa. It was destroyed by the Turks in 1435.

A youthful beauty pours the wine,
 And each will pledge a cup to her;
 And each of charms that seem divine
 Would fain become a worshipper.

"Nay! heroes, nay!" the virgin cried,

"My service—not my love—I give:

For one alone—for none beside:

For one alone I love and live."

Even the lyrical pieces, however, with all the advantages they derive from Mr. Bowring's skill, and it is not small, offer few attractions.

We confess that we have looked in vain for the "singular beauty" which Göthe discovered in the Servian amatory poetry, and the "passionate, overflowing, and contented affection," it is said to breathe; its "shrewdness and spirit," its "marvellous sagacity," its "vigour and energy," its "sympathies and sensibilities," its "poetical imagery and imaginative beauty," have equally escaped our diligent search. We have been able to find no distinct or intelligible "picture of Servian life and manners" in the ballads translated by Mr. Bowring; and we should be inclined to suspect another person than Göthe of spiteful irony and sarcasm who should assert that these poems displayed "every thing which gives to passion the force of truth, and to external scenery the character of reality."

We should lament the waste of talents upon such unprofitable employment as that of translating ballads without pretensions to be known beyond the pale of their original language, but that we feel a becoming distrust of our own judgment, which it would be arrogant to oppose, upon a question like this, to the authority of Göthe and Mr. Bowring. We have observed, moreover, in a foreign journal, a review of Talvi's collection of Servian ballads, translated into German by a lady named Jacob (of whom and of whose translation Mr. Bowring speaks with commendation), wherein the writer expresses himself in terms of warm admiration respecting the merits of Servian poetry. Referring to the collection made by Vuk, which has furnished most of the specimens in Mr. Bowring's volume, he says, the "songs of women," or lyrical pieces, display warmth, sentiment, and imagination; and the "songs of men," or epic (termed by our translator narrative) pieces, may be compared with the *rhapsodies* of Homer, if not for elegance and grace, at least for their energy and simplicity. "The collection," he adds, "is a real acquisition made by Western literature, and which will render the study of the Slavonian dialects more general than it has been: these vigorous accents of simple and majestic nature often strike us with irresistible force, and impress us with the grandeur and sublimity of their ideas."

It is, perhaps, our own fault that we are insensible to the charms of Servian minstrelsy.

THE BRITISH TERRITORIES IN THE DECCAN.

AT the termination of the Mahratta war, the conquered territories in the Deccan were placed under the immediate charge of the Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone (the present governor of Bombay) as commissioner. This gentleman took the earliest steps to obtain a full knowledge of the state of the country, with a view to the introduction of such improvements in its administration as circumstances required. The results of his own observation, and the ample information derived from the civil and military officers in charge of districts, or otherwise associated with the commissioner in the settlement of the country, were digested by Mr. Elphinstone into a comprehensive and voluminous report to the Marquess of Hastings, the governor-general. A copy of this document, dated 25th October 1819, forms one of the valuable papers composing the fourth volume of the "Selections from the Records at the East-India House," just printed by order of the Court of Directors. The authenticity which the facts acquire from the high character and known talents, as well as the official station and facilities, of the writer of the report, has induced us to prepare an epitome of it,* under the impression that information thus vouched, regarding a portion of British India generally but little known, could not be otherwise than interesting.

Mr. Elphinstone commences his report with a description of the country, which necessarily includes some portions which do not belong to the British Government. The possessors of independent territory are the Rajahs of Sattara and Colapore, the Nizam, Scindia, Holkar, the Rajah of Berar and the Guicowar. The lands held by dependent chiefs belong to Angria, the Punt Suchem, the Prittee Nedhee, the Putwardhuns, and other jagheerdars. The whole extent of the British portions are roughly estimated at 50,000 square miles; and the population, excluding the detached territories beyond the Nizam's frontiers, is conjectured at four millions.

The grand geographical feature of this tract, is the chain of ghauts which run along the western boundary for its whole length; between this range and the sea lies the Concan, now under Bombay. It extends from forty to fifty miles in breadth, includes many fertile places, producing abundance of rice, but in general is very rough, and much crossed by steep and rocky hills. Towards the ghauts the country is in most places extremely strong, divided by hills, intersected by ravines, and covered with thick forest; the range itself is from two to four thousand feet high, extremely abrupt and inaccessible on the west. The passes are numerous but steep, and very seldom passable for carriages. The table-land on the east is nearly as high as many parts of the ridge of the ghauts, but in general the hills rise above it, to the height of from a thousand to fifteen hundred feet. The table-land is for a considerable distance rendered very strong by numerous spurs issuing from the range, among which are deep winding rugged valleys, often filled with thick jungle. Further east, the branches from the ghauts become less frequent, and the country becomes more level till the neighbourhood of the Nizam's frontier, where it is an open plain.

The northern part of the chain of ghauts and the country at its base is inhabited by Bheels; that part to the south of Baugland and the country at its base as far south as Bassien is inhabited by Coolies, a tribe somewhat resembling the former, but more civilized and less predatory. The Bheels possess

* The report, with the replies, &c. appended to it, occupies 170 folio pages.

possess the eastern part of the range, and all the branches that run out from it towards the east, as far south as Poona; they even spread over the plains to the east, especially north of the Godavery, and to the neighbourhood of the Wurda. On the north they extend beyond the Taptee and Nerbudda. Both the Bheels and the Coolies are numerous in Guzerat. South of Poona, the Bheels are succeeded by the Ramoosees, a more civilized and subdued tribe, but with the same thievish habits as the Bheels; they have no language of their own, are more mixed with the people, and resemble the Mahrattas in dress and manners, whereas the Bheels differ from the rest of the people in language, manners, and appearance. Of the latter, Mr. Elphinstone remarks that, although they live quietly in the open country, they resume their wild and predatory character whenever they are settled in a part that is strong, either from hills or jungle. The Ramoosees do not extend further south than Colapore, or further east than the line of Bejapoor.

The districts in Nemaar, which are small and of little value, Mr. Elphinstone recommends to be exchanged for some other territory: our most northern district would then be Candeish. This province is bounded on the north by the Sautpoora range, and on the south by that in which are the fort of Chandore and the ghaut of Adjunta: on the south-west by the range of Syadree, commonly called the Ghauts, at the termination of which, south of the Taptee, is the hilly tract of Baugland. The plain of Candeish descends towards the Taptee from the hills on the north and south (especially from the south); on the east it is bounded by Scindia's and the Nizam's territories on the plain of Berar; and on the west the plain along the Taptee extends, without interruption, from the hills to the sea: but it is divided from the rich country about Surat by a thick and extensive jungle. Though interspersed with low ranges of unproductive hills, the bulk of the province is exceedingly fertile, and it is watered by innumerable streams, on many of which expensive embankments have formerly been erected for purposes of irrigation. Some parts of the province are still in a high state of cultivation, and others more recently abandoned convey a high notion of their former richness and prosperity; but the greater part of Candeish is covered with thick jungle, full of tigers and other wild beasts, but scattered with the ruins of former villages. The districts north of the Taptee in particular, which were formerly very populous and yielded a large revenue, are now almost an uninhabited forest.

Candeish is low and hot. Gungterry, which joins it on the south, is from fifteen hundred to two thousand feet above the level of the Taptee, and the rest of the conquered territory (except the Concan) is on the same table-land. From this to the Kistna, or rather the Warna and Kistna, is comprehended in the districts of Ahmednuggur and Poona, and the Rajah of Sattara's territory. The western half of all this tract is hilly, the valleys rich and highly cultivated, and the country diversified and beautiful. Further east are plains, but not all in the same condition. The east of Gungterry, though open and fertile, is almost entirely uninhabited since the famine in 1803; the country between that and Ahmednuggur is better, and the plains south of Ahmednuggur are, for many marches in all directions, one sheet of the richest cultivation. I do not know the state of the south-east of that district towards Colapore, but I imagine it is equally prosperous. The country beyond the Neera is in a very different state, thinly peopled and badly cultivated. It is in this tract that most of the horses in the Mahratta country are bred, and that most of the Silladars or military adventurers reside. The principal towns in the Peishwa's late dominions are between Candeish and the Kistna, but none of them are considerable.

considerable. Poona may be reckoned to contain about a hundred and ten thousand inhabitants, having lost from a tenth to a fifth since the removal of Bajee Rao with his court and army. Nassick does not contain more than a fourth of this number. Punderpoor is still smaller than Nassick, and the rest all much smaller than Punderpoor. Ahmednuggur, however, must be excepted, which is reckoned to contain twenty thousand souls, and is increasing rapidly.

This tract is the oldest possession of the Mahratta Government: its inhabitants are by far the most decidedly Mahratta. The character of this people is thus depicted. The Brahmins, who have long conducted all the business of the country, are intriguing, lying, corrupt, licentious, and unprincipled; when in power, unfeeling and systematically oppressive; at present, generally discontented, and restrained by fear alone from treachery and treason. They are superstitious and narrow in their attachment to their caste to an unexampled degree; but they are mild, patient, intelligent, and even liberal and enlightened on many subjects; though regardless of sufferings of which they are indirectly the cause, they are naturally very averse to cruelty and bloodshed. Many instances of exception occur of course, and the opinions of some may be relied on as sound and candid; but they are generally supple and insincere.

The Mahratta chiefs, whilst in power, are generally coarse, ignorant, rapacious, and oppressive. Those settled in the country, however, are of a better character, being sober, industrious, and encouragers of agriculture.

The soldiery so much resemble the chiefs, that individuals of the two classes might change places without any striking impropriety. The chiefs, of course, are more vicious, and probably more intelligent. The Mahratta soldiery love war, as affording opportunities for rapine in an enemy's country, and marauding in a friend's. In battle they seem always to have been the same dastardly race: but they are active, hardy, vigilant, patient of fatigue and privations, and though timid in action, they shew great boldness and enterprize in their incursions into distant countries; and on all occasions they appear to have the greatest confidence in their horses, though little or none in their swords. Their plan in a campaign is to avoid general engagements, to ravage their enemy's country, and to cut up convoys and detachments; in an action it is to disperse when attacked, and to return to the charge when the enemy has broken, to plunder; by these means they are enabled to prevail against better troops than themselves. In all of these people we, of course, have mortal enemies, and might have formidable opponents: they have been ruined by their regular armies and equipments, by their fears of losing their wealth and their territories, and by some approaches to a regular government amongst their chiefs; but if they were once reduced to desperation, and were again the same lawless freebooters that they were in the beginning of their career, they might not only occasion a long and expensive struggle, but might be the most dangerous opponents that Asia could produce to the valour and discipline of Europe. The Mahratta peasantry have some pride in the triumphs of their nation, and some ambition to partake in its military exploits; but although circumstances might turn them into soldiers or robbers, at present their habits are decidedly peaceful: they are sober, frugal, industrious, mild, and inoffensive to every body, and among themselves neither dishonest nor insincere. The faults of their government have, however, created the corresponding vices in them; its oppression and extortion have taught them dissimulation, mendacity, and fraud; and the insecurity of property has rendered them so
careless

careless of the future, as to lavish on a marriage, or other ceremony, the savings of years of parsimony. The first class of these vices, though prevalent throughout the whole in their dealings with Government, is more conspicuous among the Patells and others who are most brought into contact with their rulers; and the effects of the second are felt in the debts and embarrassments in which the whole of the agricultural population is plunged.

It may be observed in conclusion, that the military Brahmins combine part of the character of Mahratta soldiers with that of their own caste, and that the character of the Mahratta soldiery, in like manner, runs into that of the cultivator. Taking the whole as a nation, they will be found to be inferior to their Mahomedan neighbours in knowledge and civilization, in spirit, in generosity, and perhaps in courage; but less tainted with pride, insolence, tyranny, effeminacy, and debauchery; less violent, less bigoted, and (except while in armies on foreign service) more peaceable, mild, and humane.

The country south of the Kistna, or, as the Mahrattas call it, the Carnatic, has few hills and places incapable of cultivation, except in the immediate neighbourhood of the Ghauts: a large portion of it is, however, uncultivated. It consists of extensive plains of black or cotton ground. There are no large towns in this part; Hoobly is the largest, which has been estimated at 15,000 souls. Belgaum and Shahpoor, which are contiguous, may amount together to 14,000; no other town in this district contains more than 5,000.

Both this division and Beejapoor are inhabited by Canarese, who retain their own language and manners. The Mahrattas (consisting of soldiers and Brahmins) are reckoned to constitute no more than one-eighth or one-tenth of the inhabitants. The Canarese are described as resembling their countrymen in the Ceded Districts, but more honest, manly, and courageous, though less mild, hospitable, and humane: both are equally industrious and frugal. The people of the Carnatic have always been considered by the Mahrattas as turbulent and disaffected; they seem now perfectly quiet and well-disposed. The general use of Shait Sunneedees, or landed militia, so common in Mysore, is only found in this part of the conquered territory.

Mr. Elphinstone next gives a sketch of the history of the Mahrattas, which affords such a succinct view of the subject, that we subjoin it nearly in his own words.

The Mahratta language and nation extend from the Sautpoora mountains nearly to the Kistna, and from the sea on the west to a waving frontier on the east, which may be tolerably indicated by a line drawn from Goa to the Wurda, near Chanda, and thence along that river to the Sautpoora mountains. The whole of the territory was probably under a Mahratta king, who resided at Deeoghurree, now Dowlatabad; but this empire was subverted in the beginning of the fourteenth century by the Mahomedans, and remained under various dynasties of that religion until the end of the seventeenth century, when the greater part was delivered by Sewajee and his successors. The eastern part still remains under the Moguls.

The grandfather of Sewajee was of very humble origin, but his father had attained a considerable rank under the kingdom of Beejapoor, had been entrusted with a government, and profiting by the weakness of the king's power, had rendered himself nearly independent in the southern part of the Beejapoor dominions. The same weakness encouraged Sewajee to rebel and plunder the country; and he was enabled, by the increasing confusions in the Deccan, to found a sort of government, which the desultory operations of Aurengzebe, distracted by his numerous and simultaneous foreign wars, allowed him time to consolidate.

solidate. His rebellion began about 1646; he declared himself independent in 1674, and at his death, about 1682, he was possessed of great part of the Concan; the rest being in the hands of the Moguls of Surat, or in those of the Portuguese, or held for the Beejapoor government by the Siddies or Abyssinians of Gingera. He seems also to have possessed the greater part of the line of ghauts, and to have shared with the Mahommedans the tract immediately to the east of those mountains, as far north as Poona, and as far south as Colapore.

Most of these possessions were wrested from his son, who was reduced to the hills and part of the Concan, when Aurengzebe was drawn off to the subversion of the monarchies of Golconda and Beejapoor. The convulsions occasioned by the extinction of those states completely unsettled the country, and threw a large portion of the armies, which had hitherto maintained tranquillity, into the scale of the Mahrattas, to whom the Zemindars throughout the Deccan also appear to have been inclined. The consequence was, that although on the execution of Sumbajee, the son of Sewajee, in 1689, his son and heir, Sahoojee, fell into the hands of the Moguls, and his younger brother, Raja Ram, who succeeded him, was shut up in the fort of Gingee, south of Arcot, so that, for several years, the Mahrattas had no efficient head, yet they were able under different leaders to withstand, and at length to deride, the efforts of the Moguls, which were enfeebled by the factions of the generals and the declining age of the emperor, till the year 1707, when the death of Aurengzebe, and the contests among his successors, set them free from all danger on the part of the Moguls. The chiefs left in charge of the Deccan first faintly opposed, and then conciliated, the Mahrattas. A truce was concluded about 1710, by which they yielded the choute; and this, or the confirmation of the agreement, together with a formal grant of their territorial possessions by the emperor in 1719, may be considered as the final establishment of the Mahratta Government, after a struggle of at least sixty years.

During the period between the death of Aurengzebe and the confirmation of the choute, &c. a great revolution had taken place among the Mahrattas. Sahoo Raja, son of Sumbajee, was released in 1708, but on his return to the Deccan he found himself opposed by his cousin Sewajee, son of Raja Ram. This prince had succeeded on the death of his father in 1700, but being either very weak, or entirely deranged in his intellects, his affairs were conducted by his mother, Tarow Bye. Sahoo Raja was enabled, chiefly by the good conduct of his minister, Ballajee Wisswanaut, to gain over Canojee Angria, the chief support of his rival's cause, and to seat himself on the Mahratta musnud. He immediately appointed Ballajee to the office of Peishwa, which had before belonged to the family of Pinglia, but was forfeited by its possessor's adherence to the cause of Tarow Bye. Sahoo Raja being incapacitated by his mental imbecility from exercising the authority with which he was invested, the entire administration devolved on Ballajee Wisswanaut.

At the time of the confirmation of the choute, although the Mahrattas had numerous claims over several of the provinces possessed by the Moguls, their actual territory does not appear to have extended beyond the narrow limits to which it had reached under Sewajee. The Mogul's grant, confirming their possessions, enumerates the districts, by which it appears that they extended in the Concan from the Goa territory to a point considerably to the south of Demaun; while above the ghauts they only reached from the Gatpunda to the river Kookree, forty miles north of Poona. The greatest length (on the sea-coast) is two hundred and eighty miles; the greatest breadth (from

Hutnee and Punderpoor to the sea) one hundred and forty: but this breadth is only found to the south of Poona; north of that city the breadth does not exceed seventy miles.

It was long before the Mahrattas obtained possession of the country in the immediate neighbourhood of their first conquests; the forts of Joonere and Ahmednuggur, the first within forty, and the other within eighty miles of Poona, were not reduced until within the last sixty years, long after the Mahrattas had made themselves masters of Malwa and Guzerat, and had plundered up to the gates of Agra. Candeish was not subdued until within these sixty years, nor the Carnatic until a still later period. The cause of this inconsistency was the close connexion between the Mahrattas and Nizamool-Moolk, who was glad to encourage them as the means of weakening the power of the Court of Delhi; while they, with their usual policy, were pleased to disunite their enemies and attack them one by one. To this connexion also it is to be ascribed, that a third of the Mahratta nation should have been left to this day under the dominion of the Moguls.

Ballajee Wisswanaut, dying in 1720, was succeeded by his son Bajee Rao Belall. This chief, who appears to have been a man of activity and abilities, took full advantage of the weakness, the distraction, and the mutual jealousy and treachery of the Moguls. He overran all Malwa, and had entirely reduced it some time about the year 1735; while the troops of the Senaputtee, another great general of Sahoo Raja, had made similar progress in Guzerat. The rivalry of these generals renewed the domestic distractions of the Mahrattas; but Bajee Rao finally overcame the Senaputtee, as Nana Sahib subsequently did his powerful servant the Guicowar in 1750, when he compelled the latter to submit implicitly to his authority, and to make over half of Guzerat to his officers. Bajee Rao died in 1741, and was succeeded by his son Ballajee Rao, commonly called Nana Sahib.

This prince was the first of the Peishwas who openly exercised the sovereign authority on the Raja's behalf. His two predecessors had always affected to act under the orders of that prince, but Raja Sahoo dying in 1749, it was alleged by the Peishwa that he had formally invested him with the sovereignty of his dominions, on condition of his keeping up the name of the Raja's descendants. I may here remark, that it appears more than doubtful whether the Rajas of Sattara ever pretended to possess absolute sovereignty, or to hold their territories otherwise than as vassals either of Beejapoor or Delhi. Nana Sahib was an inactive prince, and intrusted his internal government to his cousin Saddasheew Rao Bhow, and the command of his armies to his brother Ragoonath Rao, the father of the late Peishwa. A temporary exchange of these functions occasioned the defeat and fall of the Bhow at Paniput, and the death of Ballajee, who never recovered the shock.

The government then fell into the hands of Ragoonath Rao, who detained Madhoo Rao, the son of Nana Sahib, in a state of tutelage and dependence, but who was not long able to resist the talents and energy which that prince early displayed. Madhoo Rao then took the reins into his own hands, imprisoned Ragoonath, and reigned for eleven years. Though at least equal to his predecessor as a general, Madhoo Rao's chief praise arises from his civil government. He was the first who introduced order into the internal administration, and who shewed a sincere desire to protect his subjects from military violence, and to establish something like a regular dispensation of justice.

His death, which happened in 1772, was soon followed by the murder of his

his brother Narrain Rao, the usurpation of Ragoonath Rao, and a long struggle, in which the English were unsuccessful supporters of the claims of that usurper. During this disturbed period, and the thirteen years of comparative tranquillity which followed, Nana Furnavees acted as regent in the name of the infant son of the murdered Narrain Rao. The territories in the Deccan were quiet, and were governed in a spirit of peace and moderation, which aided the former measures of Madhoo Rao in softening the predatory habits of the Mahrattas; but at the same time the great chiefs of Hindostan began to appear rather as allies than as servants; and although the connexion of the Mahrattas as a confederacy was probably at its greatest height at this period, yet the seeds of dissolution which were inherent in the nature of it, began evidently to display themselves. A short view of the members of this confederacy will show the loose ties by which the whole was held.

The state of Tanjore was scarcely ever even in alliance with Sattara; that founded by Morar Rao Gorepara, in the north of Mysore, was in nearly the same situation, and that of Colapore never joined it in any war. The confederates must therefore be the Raja of Berar, the Guicowar, Scindia, Holkar, the Powars, and the chiefs of Jhansi and Sagur. The first of these powers was closely united in interest with Poona, and had no points of disagreement; yet it was frequently at war with the Poona state, and seemed to have been almost as much connected with the Nizam as with it. The Guicowar was oppressed and subdued, a vassal rather than a confederate. He joined the first power that appeared against the Mahrattas in his part of India, and has adhered to his alliance to the last. The other chiefs were subjects and servants of the Peishwa, and were themselves born and bred in the heart of the Mahratta country, as were the whole of their national troops, not one of whom to this day, perhaps, was born in their foreign conquests. Besides the ties of kindred, language and country, which in most nations keep up a connexion for ages, the Mahrattas had a strong interest in opposing their common enemies; yet there is perhaps no instance in which they were all engaged on one side in a war, and it is surprising that states so circumstanced should be unable to keep up a closer alliance for a period little exceeding the natural life of man. These facts do not, however, shew that there is not at this moment a confederacy cemented by the common country, common interests, and common enmity to their conquerors; but that there is nothing particularly durable in the connexion to prevent its dissolving at no distant period.

At the death of Madhoo Rao Narrain in 1796, the whole of the great Mahratta chiefs, the Raja of Behar, Scindia, Holkar, and the Jagheerdars of the Deccan, appeared at Poona for the last time as vassals of the empire. The power and weight of the minister was insufficient to control this tumultuous assembly, and a scene of factions, violence and intrigue ensued, at the conclusion of which Bajee Rao, the rightful heir, but the representative of the unpopular and proscribed house of Ragoonath Rao, was elevated to the musnud by the military power of Scindia. He however was for some time little more than a pageant in the hands of that prince, and it seemed probable that Scindia would soon imitate the example of the Peishwa's ancestors, and reduce his nominal master to the condition of the Raja of Sattara. It was perhaps the dread of the interference of the British which prevented this change of dynasty, and at the end of a few years the increasing disorders in Scindia's own possessions obliged him to quit his hold on the Peishwa, and to withdraw to Hindoostan. Bajee Rao, now left alone, had neither ability nor

inclination to put himself at the head of his turbulent chiefs and mutinous army; he remained quiet in Poona, while every Jagheerदार assumed independence, and the country was overrun by banditti, formed from the soldiery that were no longer employed in the armies, to within a few miles of the capital. At length his Highness was expelled by Holkar. He returned supported by a British force, and from that time began a new order of things, which existed at the time of our conquest.

Instead of the extensive, but loose confederacy, of which the Peishwa was head, which was in a constant state of foreign war and internal disorder, and which could only be held together by constant vigilance and activity, as well as concession and management, the Peishwa was now to possess in peace a small compact territory, and as this had formerly partaken of the loose government of the general mass, it became the Peishwa's object to consolidate his power, and establish it on such a footing as would allow of his governing with as much ease as other eastern princes.

Some progress had been made towards the state of things during the governments of Madhoo Rao and Nana Furnavees; and Bajee Rao himself, from temper as much as from policy, had already adopted the course most suited to his situation. The head of an unpopular party, and educated in a prison, he had little sympathy with the bulk of his nation, and little desire for any enterprize in which he might require their assistance. His only wish was to gratify his love of power and of revenge, without endangering his safety or disturbing his ease; he had therefore begun his administration by plundering all the ministers connected with his enemy. Nana Furnavees had seized on the jagheers of his principal opponents. When the treaty of Bassein (1803) relieved him from all apprehension of resistance, he gave a loose to his desire for depressing the great and degrading his enemies.

Almost all those who had been connected with the government of his predecessors were discarded; the great Sirdars who held lands were either dispossessed or kept at a distance, and obliged to yield implicit obedience to his will. No attempt was made to restore the old army; the chiefs who had commanded it were left in want; the court was almost entirely composed of new men, and the few troops that were retained were commanded by upstarts and paid from the treasury.

A severe famine that followed Bajee Rao's restoration, prevented the natural effect of his reduction of the military force; many men perished and more horses, and the vacancies occasioned by the deaths of the owners of land afforded a provision for many, who had till then maintained themselves by the profession of arms. Many more went to the camp of Scindia, who was then exchanging his Mussulman retainers for Mahrattas: others found employment with Holkar and the Raja of Berar; and many probably joined the hordes of Pindarries which began about this time to be conspicuous.

[To be concluded next month.]

TESTIMONIES OF THE ANCIENTS REGARDING THE SUTTEE CUSTOM.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: As the self-immolation of Hindoo widows is a subject which now engages public attention, and will soon be brought under the notice of Parliament, perhaps it may not be unacceptable to you and your readers to be furnished with the testimonies regarding the custom to be found in the ancient Greek and Roman authors, which I accumulated in the course of an investigation into the origin of this barbarous practice. Besides gratifying curiosity, the extracts must convince us of the great antiquity of the practice, and will afford perhaps the best guide we can expect to obtain of the real motive which led to its institution,—a fact of no small importance to ascertain when we are endeavouring to put it down, not by coercive means, but by the gentle expedients of argument and persuasion.

Ancient authors report a number of facts which prove that the practice of self-immolation on a funeral pile was by no means uncommon. Casaubon, in his *Animadversiones in Athenæum*,* enumerates a multitude of examples of this species of voluntary sacrifice, from Sardanapalus to more recent cases; and the authorities quoted in the note,† refer to others, in India as well as elsewhere.

The father of profane history, Herodotus, speaks of a custom amongst the ancient Thracians which nearly resembles the Hindoo ceremony; and from the allusion to India in the outset of his account, I cannot help surmising that it refers to an Indian, not a Thracian tribe. He says that the Thracians, after the Indians, are the most considerable nation; he then states that those Thracians, who are situated beyond the people of Crestona, have this custom: "Each has several wives. When the husband dies, a great contest arises amongst them, together with a violent stir upon the subject amongst the deceased's friends, as to which of the wives was most beloved by him. She who is adjudged to have enjoyed this honour, is adorned by the men and women, and sacrificed by her nearest relation on the tomb of her husband, with whom she is then buried; the other wives considering this as a great misfortune to them, for they hold it to be the highest disgrace to survive."‡

Pomponius Mela § gives a similar account of the Thracian custom, probably from Herodotus: and there is a passage in the fragments left by Stephanus Byzantinus, which refers to a law amongst the Getæ,—τὸ ἐπισφάζει τὴν γυναῖκα τῷ ἀνδρὶ—for sacrificing the wife on the husband's tomb.

Taking the Greek and Roman writers, who expressly mention the Hindoo custom, in the order of their respective dates, we must begin with Cicero, who refers to it, as well as to the voluntary cremation of the Brahmins, in the following terms: ||

What barbarism can be greater or more brutal than that in India, where those who are esteemed wise men pass their lives in nakedness, and endure Caucasian snows and severest frosts without complaint? Nay, when they throw themselves into the fire they burn without a groan. The women, too, when their husbands die, contend amongst each other which was the most beloved (for a plurality of wives is allowed in India); and she who triumphs, overjoyed, proceeds, attended by her friends, to place herself
along

* *Deipnosoph. lib. xi. c. 7.*

† *Plut. in Alex. Strabo, lib. xv. Ælian. Var. Hist. lib. v. c. vi. Cic. de Die. c. 23. Val. Max. lib. l. Porphyry, lib. iv. &c. &c. x Terps. c. 5. § Lib. li. c. 2. || Tusc. Quæst. l. v. c. 27.*

along with her husband's body, upon the funeral pile; whilst they * who are unsuccessful depart in sorrow.

The next author is Diodorus Siculus, who gives the fullest and most interesting account of the nature and origin of the custom. He speaks of it in two places. In the first † he is relating an expedition of Alexander against the Adrastæ, a people situated, according to Arrian, on the Hydraotes, or Rauwee, one of the rivers of the Punjaub. From thence they reached the region of the Cathays, ‡ who also appear to have inhabited the Punjaub. "Amongst this people," the historian observes, "there was a law that married women should be burned with their deceased husbands. This institution took its rise amongst these barbarians from the crime of one wife, who destroyed her husband by poison." This expedition took place in the second year of the 103d Olympiad, or B. C. 327. The following is the other account given by Diodorus, of the ceremony, which he characterizes as "an unheard-of crime, and abhorrent from Grecian laws and customs." §

Ceteus, the leader of those (troops) which came from India, having fallen bravely fighting in battle, left in the camp two wives, who had been the companions of his military expedition; one of them had been but recently espoused (*νέγναμιν*), the other had entered the marriage-state (*συμκίττασα*) some years before. Both loved their husband with extreme affection. According to the ancient law of the Indians, men and virgins, who directed their thoughts towards marriage, contracted that relation, not by the judgment of parents, but by mutual consent; and whereas in early times, in marriages between young people, it happened that false opinions were formed of each other, and repentance soon after appeared, many wives became thereby corrupted, and followed other men. In the end, not being able to accomplish their objects by honest means, they took off their husbands by poison. For such a purpose, this country affords not a few means, as it produces many and various plants || of deadly qualities, some of which, slightly mingled in food or drink, occasion speedy death. This wicked practice increasing, and many falling victims to it, and the punishment of the guilty not serving to deter others from the commission of this crime, a law was passed that wives should be burned with their deceased husbands, except such as were pregnant, or who had children; and that any individual who refused to comply with this law, should be compelled to remain a widow, and be for ever excluded from all rights and privileges whatsoever, as guilty of impiety. This measure being adopted, it followed that the abominable disposition to which the wives were addicted was converted into an opposite feeling. For, in order to avoid that climax of disgrace, every wife being obliged to die, they not only took all possible care of their husband's safety (which indeed concerned their own), but emulated each other in promoting his glory and renown. Such was the result of this law on the present occasion. Although the law required that one wife only should be burned with the body, yet both the wives of Ceteus approached his bier, desirous of sacrificing themselves as a tribute to his superior virtue. The matter became a question of dispute before the chiefs. The younger wife alleged that the other was pregnant, and therefore was prohibited from burning by law. The elder maintained that, out of regard to her seniority, she ought to have the privilege of burning; since in other things, the elder wives had more claim to honour and reverence than the younger. The chiefs, however, finding from the testimony of those who were skilled in the obstetric science, that the elder wife was really pregnant, decided in favour of the younger. Whereat she who had lost her cause departed weeping, rending the

* According to the judicious, and indeed indispensable, reading of Bentley.

† *Lib.* xvii. c. 91.

‡ The critics prefer *Kabaiow*, here, to *Kabapwv*, which is the reading of all the copies. The former agrees with the text of other authors. The name refers probably to the Cshatriyas, or Rajpoots.

§ *Lib.* xix. cc. 32, 31.

The *Datura* was used for such purposes, and it is to be feared is sometimes so employed at the present day. See Dr. Fleming's Catalogue of Indian Plants. *As. Res.*

the veil which covered her head, and tearing her hair, as if some great calamity had been communicated to her. The other, rejoicing at her success, proceeded to the funeral pile, crowned by the females of her household with mitres (*μυρται*). She was decked with other ornaments, as if for a nuptial festival, and was attended by her relations chaunting a song in praise of her virtue. As soon as she reached the pile, she took the ornaments from her person, and distributed them amongst her attendants and friends, as memorials, one would say, of her affection. The ornaments consisted of a multitude of rings upon her fingers, set with precious stones of various colours. Upon her head was no small number of stars of gold, discriminated by means of stones of all kinds. About her neck were many gems, some small, and the rest gradually increasing to a larger size. At length, having embraced her family, she was placed upon the pile by her brother, and to the great astonishment of the people, who assembled to witness the ceremony, she terminated thus heroically her life. Before the pile was lighted, the whole army, in military array, marched three times round it.* The widow bending towards her husband's body, uttered no pusillanimous cry when the flames began to roar; which excited towards her the pity of some of the spectators, whilst others extolled her resolution. There were not wanting, however, individuals amongst the Greeks, who condemned this custom as cruel and inhuman.

The date of this occurrence is the first year of the 106th Olympiad, or B.C. 314. We have, therefore, in these two instances, demonstrative evidence of the prevalence, and even antiquity, of the suttee ceremony in India, more than 2,150 years ago.

The next author in rotation is Strabo, who refers to it incidentally, in speaking of the people of India, in these terms:†

It is related, moreover, of the inhabitants of Cathay (*Καθίαν*), that man and wife select each other by mutual choice. Also that wives burn with their deceased husbands, from this cause, namely, that the former, in early times, falling in love with younger men, withdrew from their husbands, or took them off by poison. Wherefore, to put a stop to these poisonings, this law was passed: but neither the law nor the custom appears to me very probable (*ὅν τι δυνάμει*).

I may here properly interpose a remark, that it is somewhat extraordinary that neither Arrian, Quintus Curtius, nor Pliny, gives any account of the suttee rite, although the latter is copious and absurd enough in his details of Indian matters. Arrian, indeed, who took his facts chiefly from Megasthenes, the contemporary of Alexander, tells us‡ that it was not his object to describe exactly the laws and institutions of the Indians, but the historical events of Alexander's expedition. Quintus Curtius§ reports the practice of voluntary cremation amongst the Indian philosophers; and Ælian|| gives a particular account of the self-immolation of a Brahmin named Calanus, in the presence of Alexander and his army; but neither alludes to widow-burnings.

The poet Propertius celebrates this act of devotion, on the part of Indian females, in the following elegant verses:¶—

*Felix Eois lex funeris una maritis,
Quos Aurora suis rubra colorat equis.
Namque ubi mortifero jacta est fux ultima lecto,
Uxorum positis stat pia turba comis:
Et certamen habent leti, quæ viva sequatur
Conjugium: pudor est, non licuisse mori.
Gaudent ** victrices, et flammæ pectora præbent,
Imponuntque suis ora perusta viris.*

In

* This was a Greek custom. See Hom. *Il.* § 13, and Virgil, *Æn.* xi. 188.

† *Geogr. lib.* xv.

‡ *Lib.* viii. c. 17.

§ *De Rob. Gest. Alex. lib.* viii. c. ix.

|| *Var. Hist. lib.* v. c. vi.

¶ *Lib.* iii. *El.* xi. *Ed.* Burmann. *El.* xiii. *Ed.* Vulp.

** Some read *Ardent*.

In plain prose: Eastern husbands are favoured by this funeral law; that when they die, ere the torch is applied to the fatal pile, their wives, who stand around it with dishevelled hair, maintain a deadly contest for the honour of accompanying their husband: for it is a disgrace not to die with him. The exulting victor courts the devouring flames, and expires with her burning cheek upon her husband's corpse.

Valerius Maximus is the next author. In speaking of the resolution of certain nations, he says:—

But wherefore should I praise men as bravest in this sort of courage? The wives of the Indians are commemorated, who, when several are married to one man, according to the custom of the country, upon their husband's death dispute and contend with each other which loved him best. The victor, exulting with delight, and led by her friends displaying cheerful countenances, throws herself into the flames of her husband, and is joyfully consumed with him. The unsuccessful candidates live oppressed with grief and sorrow. The boldness of the Cimbrians, the constancy of the Celtiberians, the resolute wisdom of the Thracians, and the crafty prudence of the Lycians in despising sorrow, are not comparable to this Indian sacrifice, wherein the pious wife ascends the pile in the face of instant death, as if it were a nuptial couch.

Solinus, a writer of uncertain date, supposed to be of the third century, who professes to take his facts from Megasthenes, whose history was extant in his time, says † (so far as his meaning is intelligible), as follows:

Among these people (the Indians) several wives marry one man, and in the event of his death, they plead before grave judges their merit in respect to him, and she who succeeds in obtaining their judgment, gains the privilege of ascending the pile of her husband, and sacrificing herself to his manes: the other wives live in obscurity.

Stobæus, a Greek Heathen writer, whose date is A.D. 405, and who is valued for his faithful transcripts from more ancient authors, has the following passage respecting the suttée-practice:‡—

The Indians, when they die, are burnt with one of their wives whom they love most. A great contention takes place between the women on this account, and the friends of each incite her to gain this distinction.

The last writer I shall quote is Servius, the commentator on Virgil, about the same date as Stobæus, who refers to the practice in one of his annotations:§

It was a custom amongst the ancients, as at present in India, that when a king died, the most prized of his horses or slaves, and the most beloved of his wives, were burned with his body. Amongst the latter there was a great contention for this honour.

The preceding are all the passages which I have been able to find respecting the suttée ceremony in the Greek and Roman writers. I have a large collection of extracts from travellers and more recent authorities; but with these I will not trouble you.

I am, &c.

T.

* *Id.* c. vi. 14.

† *Polyhist.* c. 52. Salmassius, *Plin. Exerc.* t. I. p. 80. The voluminous comments with which Salmassius has smothered this author do not always elucidate his meaning. In this passage, by reading and supporting *accendat* instead of *ascendit*, and in *note*, instead of *ignote*, he totally subverts the sense.

‡ *De Sepulto*, *Serm.* 122.

§ *Ad Alon. lib.* v. 11.

PROBABLE DISCOVERY OF THE FATE OF LA PEROUSE.

A **VERY** interesting fact has been announced at Calcutta, namely, the discovery of some vestiges of the celebrated French circumnavigator, La Perouse, respecting whose fate, subsequently to his departure from New South Wales, no particulars have hitherto been learned, notwithstanding the diligent inquiries set on foot by his own government,* and by navigators of other nations. The last newspapers from Calcutta teem with this subject, and from their several statements we extract the following details.

On the 4th September last the Chilian vessel *St. Patrick*, commanded by Peter Dillon, a native of Ireland, arrived at Calcutta, originally from Valparaiso. Capt. Dillon immediately made public the curious fact, that he had obtained, at one of the islands in the South Pacific Ocean, several articles which had evidently belonged to La Perouse or his companions, and that there was reason to believe that some of those unfortunate men were now alive and residing on the Malico Islands, part of the group called the New Hebrides.

The communication was of such importance that the government seems to have promptly taken up the matter, and Capt. Dillon accordingly laid before it a memorial, from which we extract the following particulars :—

It appears that in September 1813, when Capt. Dillon was an officer in the Bengal ship *Hunter*, he visited the isles called Feejee, forming part of the Friendly Islands, on a voyage from Calcutta to New South Wales and Canton. Several Europeans were then living on these islands; but in an affray with the natives, all the foreigners on shore were killed except Mr. Dillon, a native of Prussia, and an Englishman belonging to the *Hunter*. The Prussian (who had been a resident amongst the Feejees) and a lascar, who had married a Feejee woman, took refuge on board the *Hunter*, and begged of the captain to land them at the first place he touched at on his route to Canton. This proved to be the island called Barwell Island in the charts, but by the natives Tucopia, in lat. 12° 15' S., long. 169° E. The lascar and his wife were accordingly put ashore and left on this island.

On the 13th May 1826, Capt. Dillon, then in command of his own ship, the *St. Patrick*, bound from Valparaiso to Pondicherry, came in sight of Tucopia, and hove to, in order to ascertain whether the persons left there in 1813 were alive. Shortly after, two canoes put off and came alongside the *St. Patrick*, in one of which was the lascar, and in the other Martin Buchert, the Prussian, both in perfect health. We now quote Capt. Dillon's own expressions. "The lascar had an old silver sword-guard, which he sold for a few fishing hooks to some of my people. I inquired of the Prussian where it had come from: he told me, that on his first arrival on the island, he saw in possession of the natives this sword-guard, several chain-plates belonging to a ship, also a number of iron bolts, five axes, the handle of a silver fork, a few knives, tea-cups, glass beads and bottles, one silver spoon with a crest and cipher, and a sword, all of French manufacture. He further stated, that as soon as he became sufficiently acquainted with the language, he asked the natives how they obtained those articles, as they said that the *Hunter* was the first

* The National Assembly passed a decree on the 9th February 1791, the object of which was to urge foreign powers to make inquiries respecting Perouse and the crews of the *Boussole* and *Astrolabe*, engaging to indemnify and reward all persons who should afford assistance to the unfortunate navigators; the king was also requested to despatch an expedition in search of them.

first ship they ever had any communication with. They replied, that about two days' sail in their canoes to leeward, there was a large group of islands, under the general name Malicolo, to which they were frequently in the habit of making voyages, and that they obtained these articles from the inhabitants of the Malicolo Islands, who had a number of similar articles in their possession. Upon examining the sword-guard minutely, I discovered, or think I discovered, the initials of Perouse stamped on it, which excited my suspicion, and made me more exact in my inquiries. I then, by means of Buchert and the lascar, questioned some of the islanders respecting the way in which their neighbours procured the silver and iron articles. They then told me that the natives of Malicolo stated, that many years ago, two large ships arrived at their island: one anchored at the island of Whanoo, and the other at the island of Paiow, a little distance from each other. Some time after they anchored, and before they had any communication with the natives, a heavy gale arose, and both vessels were driven ashore. The ship that was anchored off Whanoo grounded upon the rocks. The natives came in crowds to the sea-side, armed with clubs, spears, and bows and arrows, and shot some arrows into the ship; the crew, in return, fired the guns and some musketry on them, and killed several. The vessel continuing to beat violently against the rocks, shortly went to pieces: some of the crew took to their boats, but were driven on shore, where they were to a man murdered, on landing, by the infuriated natives; others threw themselves into the sea, but if they reached the land it was only to share the fate of their wretched comrades, so that not a single soul escaped out of this vessel. The ship which grounded on Paiow was driven on a sandy beach, and the natives came down and also shot their arrows into her: but the crew prudently did not resent the aggression, but held up axes, beads, and other toys, as peace offerings; upon which the assailants desisted from hostilities. As soon as the wind moderated, an aged chief put off in a canoe to the ship: he was received with caresses, and presents were offered him, which he accepted. He went on shore, pacified his countrymen, and assured them that the people in the ship were good and friendly men: upon which several of the natives came on board, and were all presented with toys; they soon supplied the crew with yams, fowls, bananas, coco-nuts, hogs, &c., and confidence was established between them. The crew of the vessel were obliged to abandon her, and went on shore, bringing with them a great part of their stores. They remained for some time, and built a small vessel from the wreck of the large one. As soon as the small craft was ready to sail, as many as could conveniently get room embarked, being plentifully supplied with fresh provisions by the islanders. Several of their shipmates were left behind, and the commander promised to return speedily with presents for the natives, and to bring off the remainder of his crew; but she was never heard of afterwards by the islanders. Those who remained of the crew distributed themselves among various chiefs, with whom they resided until death. There had been left several muskets and some gunpowder by their comrades, and by means of these they were of great service to their friends in battle against the neighbouring islanders."

To this statement of the islanders the following confirmatory facts are added:—Capt. Dillon spoke with some of the people who manned the canoe which made the last voyage to Malicolo, who said that there were abundance of iron materials from the wrecks still remaining on the islands; and Capt. D. procured the sword-guard referred to, as well as some glass beads, and a silver ring which had been made by Buchert from a spoon brought from the wrecks.

The lascar had gone once or twice to Malicolo with the Tucopians, and he positively affirmed (Capt. Dillon states) that he had seen and conversed with two of the Europeans on Païow, who spoke the language of the islanders. "They were old men, he said, and told him that they had been wrecked several years ago in one of the ships; the remnants they shewed him. They told him also, that no ship had touched at the islands since they had been on them; that most of their comrades were dead, but they had been so much scattered among the various islands, that they could not tell precisely how many of them were alive at the time." The lascar added that they were Frenchmen.

Capt. Dillon, upon learning these facts, determined to proceed to the Malicolos, and endeavoured, though in vain, to prevail upon the lascar to accompany him. Buchert, however agreed to go, and also a native of Tucopia. Upon making the islands, the provisions on board the *St. Patrick* were nearly exhausted, and the vessel had become leaky, owing to which cause, and to the remonstrances of a person on board who was interested in the cargo, Capt. D. was constrained to abandon his interesting object at the very moment it was within his reach, and took advantage of a favourable breeze to proceed to Calcutta, which he reached with some difficulty.

He brought with him Buchert, who is a valuable evidence to the accuracy of his statement, and the articles he procured at Tucopia. The sword-guard, which was closely examined at Calcutta, is described as follows:—It is of silver, old fashioned, diamond cut, and ornamented with cordons upon the margin. A French artist recognized it, from its peculiar workmanship, as one of the articles executed in a manufactory at Versailles about forty years ago, and conjectured that it might have been a present from Louis XVI. Upon the upper surface of the guard, within a small space, about a quarter of an inch square, very delicately and beautifully executed, is discovered a cipher quite distinct, in which, by the help of a clear magnifier, may be discerned J. F. G. La Perouse.* The capital letters are very plain, and the others are easily traceable from their combinations. Impressed upon the opposite half of the guard, appears a capital P. surmounted with a coronet ornamented with the *fleur de lis*. At the upper portion of the guard, immediately above the opening intended for the admission of the blade, is perceived a cross between the letters F. M. F., surmounted by the remains of the masonic emblems, the *square* and compasses. It is conjectured that this mark indicates the unfortunate navigator to have belonged to that fraternity, the letters forming the initials of *Franc Maçon Frere*. Upon the inferior surface of the guard is also perceptible a small anchor, which is however very minute, and not altogether distinct. This relic was worn round the neck of a Tucopian as an ornament!

In consequence of some observations made, by a writer in a Calcutta paper, upon the statement of Capt. Dillon, the latter published a letter, containing a variety of observations calculated to shew the probability of the Malicolos being the scene where the *Boussole* and the *Astrolabe* were wrecked. The Malicolos of Cook, he says, are not the same as those of the Tucopians; the former are described as distant by the charts from Tucopia 205 miles, whereas the Malicolos of the Tucopians are only 155 miles † from their island. The Whanoo and

* The name of the French navigator was Jean François Galaup de la Perouse.

† So says the printed letter in the *Bengal Hurkaru*, but we apprehend it should be fifty-five miles only. An article on this subject in the *Government Gazette* states that the Malicolos of Capt. Dillon are in the same latitude as Tucopia, and sixty miles distant. The Malicolos of Cook are in lat. 16° 15'. The

and Païow of the Tucopians are the Oury and Edgcombe Islands of the charts. He adds the following observations:—"It will be recollected that La Perouse lost at Port de Français, on the N. W. coast of America, in the early part of his voyage, three [two] boats and boats' crews, which were upset in a surf on crossing a bar; amongst the unfortunate sufferers his nephew paid the debt of nature; he also lost Capt. de Langle and several officers at the Navigator's Islands; therefore, at that period, he must have been rather short of officers, and it is most probable that those who had escaped from the frigate wrecked at Païow, embarked in the small vessel built there. It would then be very unlikely that the sailors left behind, who knew nothing of navigation, could possibly attempt a voyage to Port Jackson in a Malicolo canoe. Another thing is, the natives of the South Sea Islands, whenever they get a European among them possessed of a musket and gunpowder, will never allow him to depart from their islands, he being a terror to their enemies. I have known numerous instances of this nature to occur on various islands in the Pacific. We have no account on record of any two large ships being lost at the same time, unless it were those under the command of La Perouse. Do not the Tucopians, Martin Buchert, and the lascar, account for it in the most satisfactory manner possible? Can it be for a moment supposed that the lascar, Martin Buchert, and the innocent and unoffending Tucopians, without any interested view or motives, would attempt to establish such a story? Moreover, the lascar informed me that one of the Frenchmen living on Païow was the armourer of the ship wrecked upon that island, and that there were eight brass cannon and two anchors lying on the beach at Païow, nearly covered over with sand. It is not out of a Port Jackson sandal-wood craft those brass guns could be procured, neither could it be one of that class of vessels that could account for the number of skulls which are now in the spirit house* at Whanoo." Capt. Dillon concludes his letter with expressing his confident belief that the unfortunate French navigator terminated his career either at Païow or Whanoo.

Before we state the *à priori* arguments offered in the Calcutta papers to support the probability of this conjecture, so strongly recommended by the facts alleged by Capt. Dillon, it is desirable to furnish the reader with a brief outline of the proceedings of La Perouse up to the time of his arrival at Botany Bay, which is taken from the preface to the work published at the expense of the French Government.†

The expedition, consisting of two frigates, the *Boussole* and the *Astrolabe*, the former commanded by de la Perouse, the latter by de Langle, sailed from Brest in the month of August 1785. The plan of the expedition was drawn up by the king himself. The vessels touched at Madeira and Teneriffe, and arrived on the coast of Brazil in November of the same year. From thence they proceeded round Cape Horn into the South Sea, and anchored in the Bay of Concepcion, on the Chili Coast, in February 1786. They proceeded thence to Easter Island, or Davis's Land, which they reached in April, and from thence steered directly to the Sandwich Islands. The expedition then sailed to explore the coast of North America. In June the vessels anchored

at blunders of the *Hurkaru* are extremely annoying. They occasionally betray almost incredible ignorance. In copying an article respecting Perouse which appears in the *Government Gazette* (and to which we shall hereafter refer), wherein "New Hebrides" is by a typographical error printed "*New Hebudas*," throughout the article, the *Hurkaru* servilely adopts this glaring mistake.

* This is a building appropriated to the disembodied spirits of deceased persons supposed to reside there.

† Entitled "*Voyage autour du Monde, par J. F. G. de la Perouse.*" 3 vols. 4to. Paris, 1798.

at Port Français, in lat. $58^{\circ} 37' N.$, where the boats were wrecked, to which allusion is made by Capt. Dillon. M. de la Perouse subsequently proceeded southward, to California, and in September he cast anchor in Monterrey Bay, on the coast of New Albion, whence he stood across the Pacific, and arrived in the roads of Macao in January 1787. In February he reached Manilla, which he quitted in April for the Japan islands. Passing the straits between Corea and Japan, and the coast of Chinese Tartary, which was seen in lat. $42\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, he anchored in a bay of the island Saghalien, or Tchoka, and thence proceeded still further to the northward, up the channel between that island and the continent, as far as lat. $51^{\circ} 29'$. He then returned, and reached the southern extremity of Saghalien in August. He passed the strait which divides this island from Jesso, which has since been named Perouse Strait, and entering the North Pacific, anchored in the harbour of St. Peter and St. Paul, on the isthmus of Kamchatka, in September. Here the ships were refitted, and thence proceeded to Navigator's Islands, which they reached in December, and anchored in the bay of Maoune. Here M. de Langle, M. de Lamanon the naturalist, and ten men of the *Astrolabe*, lost their lives in a conflict with the natives. From this place Perouse proceeded to New Holland, and arrived at Botany Bay in January 1788. Here he built two long boats to replace those he had lost, and quitted the Bay on March 10th. Nothing has been known respecting his later proceedings, except what is stated in a letter, the last received from him, dated 7th February 1788, whilst at Botany Bay, wherein he says: "I shall bear up again for the Friendly Isles, and shall fulfil most strictly all my instructions respecting the southern portion of New Caledonia, the Isle Santa Cruz of Mendana, the southern coast of the Arsacidæ of Surville, and the Louisiade of Bougainville, attempting to determine whether the last is separated from, or part of, New Guinea. I shall proceed about the end of July, between New Guinea and New Holland, by a different passage from that of the *Endeavour*, if any such exist. During September and October I shall explore the Gulf of Carpentaria, and the eastern coast of New Holland to Van Diemen's Land, but only so far as to enable me to return to the northward in time to reach the Isle of France by the beginning of December 1788."

There can be no doubt that the French navigator, therefore, shaped his course, in the first instance, to the north, although, as he was detained so long at Botany Bay, it is possible he might have thought it unnecessary to return to the "Friendly Isles," having sufficiently explored them on his previous visit. As it is probable that something would have been heard of him if he had ever returned to the eastern coast of New Holland, it seems equally so that it was in the early part of his course he was lost. The navigation to the Friendly Isles was through an open sea; but when it deflected westward, towards New Caledonia, it became intricate with islets and rocks, in which such a catastrophe as is said in Capt. Dillon's narrative to have occurred, was every where to be apprehended. It is not, however, from the general course of the voyage, that a deduction favourable to the correctness of his account may be drawn, but from its actually comprehending the places where the vessels are said to have been lost. From the Friendly Isles, Perouse was to sail to New Caledonia, in doing which he would necessarily pass the southern extremity of the New Hebrides, or the Isles de Saint Esprit, in which Malicolo, Whanoo, and Paiow are situated, or he might have attempted a passage through them, which led to his loss. Again, from New Caledonia he was directed to proceed to Queen Charlotte's Isles, and to examine particularly the

the southern extension of Santa Cruz, the Egmont of that Archipelago, or by some included amongst the Solomon's Isles, or the Arsacides of Surville, the next object of Perouse's navigation. Both before and after his visit to New Caledonia, therefore, his course must have laid immediately in and about the position of those islands in which the vestiges of his fate are still said to be traceable, and which lie between the eastern or southern extremity of New Caledonia and Queen Charlotte's Archipelago.

The judicious writer* by whom the foregoing arguments are employed, adds various confirmations of the account given by Capt. Dillon, deduced from such slender information as D'Entrecasteaux acquired, who seems to have performed his task with very culpable neglect, or with little judgment. He visited New Caledonia, Santa Cruz, the Arsacides, and Louisiade, the places mentioned in La Perouse's letter; but although he passed close to the south, and not far to the west, of the New Hebrides, he never attempted even to communicate with these islands. Besides Perouse's letter, there were reasons which might have induced him to think that his countryman, of whom he was in search, had been lost in this part of his homeward voyage. Labillardiere, in his account of the expedition, says, "it is not unnatural to suppose, notwithstanding we could obtain no accounts of our unfortunate countrymen, during our stay on New Caledonia, that this dangerous and almost inaccessible coast proved fatal to them;" and, in fact, a double canoe was found on the north coast of Caledonia, which had come from the eastward, a day's sail from an island called Aouvea, one of the benches of which was coated with white paint, and was evidently part of some European vessel. D'Entrecasteaux does not notice this circumstance, in his journal published several years after Labillardiere's work, by Lieut. de Rossel, although he relates the arrival of the canoe from Hohoua, or Aouvea, in nearly the same terms, and particularizes its situation, as lying E.N.E., precisely the bearing of the New Hebrides from the coast of New Caledonia. What made the matter still more suspicious was, that when questioned about this part of their equipment, the savages of this canoe set sail to the west, promising to return with additional information, but never re-appeared. D'Entrecasteaux says, "the departure of these people caused me much regret, for I had hopes of deriving from them some further information than we had been able to procure from the inhabitants of New Caledonia." Labillardiere supposes them to have come from a small island off the coast of Caledonia, named by the expedition the Isle of Beau-pré; but this is a mere guess, and the vessel might have come from the Malicolo groupe, where the vessels of La Perouse are said to have been wrecked.

With reference to a report published in the *Asiatic Journal* for October 1825,† of a whaler having found French swords, medals, and a cross of St. Louis, at some island between New Caledonia and New Guinea, the same writer observes, that this nameless island, though said to be exactly half-way between New Guinea and New Caledonia, may be nearer to the site suggested by Captain Dillon than appears from such a loose report; or, if the place be correctly designated, the party that left the islands, and the major part of the crew, might have been lost there, as it lies in the track they would probably have followed in order to make the nearest Dutch settlements.

A valuable letter of Commodore Hayes, on this subject, appears in one of the Calcutta papers, in which the experienced writer mentions several geographical facts connected with this portion of the Pacific, which he examined in

1793

* The Editor of the Calcutta Government Gazette.

† Vol. XX. p. 436.

1793 (in particular, he states that the Louisiade forms no part of the main land of New Guinea, a fact ascertained by him); and he concludes by declaring in favour of the account given by Capt. Dillon, and that he is satisfied *Perouse* and his companions were wrecked on the Malicolo Islands.

The Bengal Government, with a laudable degree of promptitude, has despatched the H.C.'s ship *Research*, under the command of Capt. Dillon, on a voyage to the eastward, in order to make search after the vestiges of *La Perouse*. Dr. Tytler accompanies the expedition as surgeon and naturalist, with instructions to record the proceedings of the voyage. We hope, therefore, in a short time to receive further intelligence upon this subject, which will set this very interesting question completely at rest.

The Calcutta journals contain many particulars respecting the natives of *Tucopia* and of the *Malicos*; but as these people are not very much discriminated from those of the adjoining archipelagos, and as we shall probably be furnished shortly with fuller details concerning these islands, we forbear from extending this article by inserting what relates to them.

We have just seen some communications upon this subject from the French authorities at Chandernagore, which have appeared in the Paris papers. The principal document is a report from Capt. Cordier to the Administrator General of the French Establishments in India (Vicomte de Richemont), relative to the statement of Capt. Dillon, who is said by M. Cordier to be a Frenchman born at Martinico, and who was closely interrogated, as well as the Prussian sailor, by the French authorities. The facts we have already stated are confirmed in the report, except as respects the sword-guard. Capt. Cordier says that this guard or shell was closely examined with a microscope; that it is of French workmanship, but that the letter P. could not be distinguished on it, though J. F. G. were distinct; that the *fleur de lis* could be seen by no one; that the letters were surmounted by a sword, with a crown over it. He adds: "several captains observed that this shell could not have belonged to an officer of the French navy, since it was of silver, which was not the uniform." Capt. C. at the same time declares, that he had seen at Brest, before the Revolution, retired officers of the navy with silver-hilted swords.

It further appears, from these papers, that a communication had been made last year to the French government, by an American Captain, of traces of *La Perouse* in the quarter mentioned by Capt. Dillon, and that the corvette *Astrolabe* (a singular coincidence) was in consequence despatched thither from Toulon, in April 1826, on a voyage of discovery. If due diligence has been used, this vessel will have reached the spot long before the *Research*.

Some French gentlemen have been permitted by the Bengal Government to join the expedition in the *Research*; amongst whom is M. Chaigneau, nephew of the Cochin Chinese Mandarin, now retired to his native soil, and from whom, or his companion, M. Vannier, we anxiously expect some information respecting the country in which they were so long domiciliated.

THE REVENUE SYSTEMS OF BENGAL AND MADRAS.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR : I find it stated in Mr. Auber's work on the Constitution of the East-Company, p. 273, under the head of "Bengal," that the provisions of the Bengal Regulation XLI, A.D. 1793, were extended in 1803 to the Ceded and Conquered Provinces under the Bengal presidency.

The dates of the acquisition of the several provinces under the presidency of Madras are not given in Mr. Auber's work. The latest acquisition was in 1801.

In 1799 power was given by the Act of the 39 and 40 Geo. III. c. 79, to the Governor in Council at Madras, to frame regulations, on the principles of the Act 37 Geo. III. c. 142, which adopts and incorporates into its provisions the principles set forth in the Preamble to the Regulation XLI, A.D. 1793, of the Bengal Code. Under this power, a code of regulations, prepared by Colonel Leith, Judge Advocate General, was printed and published at Madras; and under its provisions criminal courts were established generally, in 1802, in the provinces subject to that presidency. The civil courts, in the first instance, were established in the old territories only, that is, in those acquired previously to 1799, in which the revenue had been permanently settled.

In 1803 and 1804, the Governor in Council at Madras discussed the expediency of extending the benefits of civil courts to all the provinces under the Madras presidency; and on a reference to Bengal, Marquess Wellesley, then Governor-General, decided for the adoption of the measure, giving (amongst other powerful arguments in its favour) the following :* "that it can never be desirable that the Government itself should act as the proprietor of the lands, and should collect the rents from the immediate cultivators of the soil. If any difference should arise between the landholders and the tenants regarding engagements or usages, the courts of judicature will form the proper tribunals for deciding such differences. These questions are of private right, in which the executive authority cannot interfere consistently with justice, policy, or its own interests." Accordingly the Marquess announces to the Governor in Council at Madras that he has carried into execution, in the Ceded and Conquered Provinces under Bengal, the measures he directs to be adopted at Madras; in other words, that he has extended the Bengal Code to the newly acquired provinces under Bengal, and directs the Madras Code to be extended to all the provinces under Madras.

I find it stated in Mr. Auber's work, p. 284, that the Court of Directors, in 1814, pointed out to the Governors in Council in Bengal and at Madras the defects which they considered to exist in the administration of civil justice in British India, as provided for under the Codes of Regulations above referred to: but the alterations *ordered* to be made at the same time, in the prevailing and previously approved revenue system at Madras,† are not stated in that work. They were,

1st. The discontinuance of all permanent or temporary engagements with intermediate agents for the collection of the land-revenue.

2dly. The collection of the land-revenue every where in money from each individual

* See page 330, vol. iv. *Selections*, 1026.

† See letter of 19th September 1792, to Bengal, in *Harington's Analysis*.

individual cultivator of the soil, by means of a salaried head of the village, and a large provincial establishment of stipendiary native collectors.*

3dly. The granting of civil jurisdictions, in questions connected with the administration of the land-revenue, to the European collectors of that revenue.

4th. The granting of the full powers of a magistrate to the European collector, and, to a certain extent, to his native stipendiary collectors, including, subsequently, the power to inflict corporal punishment.†

5th. The making the European collector superintendent of police, and all his native servants employed in the collection of the revenue, instruments of police.‡

6th. The granting of a power to the European collectors, and by delegation to his native stipendiary servants, to remodel the entire assessment of the land revenue; to commute all customary payments in kind for payments in money, and all variable money rates for fixed money rates; including the power to remit or collect these rates in full, according to the means of the people in the formation of annual ryotwar settlements of the land revenue.

The readers of Sir Thomas Munro's and Sir John Malcolm's writings, must have been struck with the objections these great authorities have to the Bengal judicial system, and to the introduction of courts under that system into newly acquired territories. But Marquess Wellesley, a great authority also, did establish these courts in the Ceded and Conquered Provinces under Bengal, immediately, or very early after, their acquisition.

The regulations enacted for the Ceded and Conquered Provinces under the Bengal Government, in the full spirit of Regulation XLI, 1793, of the Bengal Code, adopted by the Legislature of Great Britain in the Act of the 37 Geo. III, rendered collectors amenable for their acts, as revenue officers, to the local civil courts; defined and limited their powers in assessing and collecting the various branches of revenue; withheld from them all civil jurisdiction, all magisterial and police powers.

No regulation has been enacted at Madras, that I can discover, for the guidance of collectors in *assessing* the land revenue, in making commutations of payments in kind for payments in money, or for collecting the annual ryotwar revenue settlements; so that the provisions of Regulation I., 1802, promulgated under the sanction and on the principle of the 37 Geo. III, which requires that a regulation be enacted when such powers are to be executed, have not been obeyed.

If any orders have been issued for the guidance of collectors in making ryotwar surveys and assessments, they must have materially affected "the rights, persons, or property of the natives;" and under Regulation I., 1802, it was declared, "that it was essential to the future prosperity of the British territories, that all regulations which may be passed by Government, affecting in any respect the rights, persons, or property of their subjects, should be formed into a regular code, and printed with translations in the country languages; that the grounds on which each regulation may be enacted should be affixed to it; and that the courts of justice should be bound to regulate their

* Heads of villages never collected the revenue when it was paid in kind; a very large portion of the public revenue was, by custom, payable in kind, before ryotwar money-rates were introduced.

† See Regulation IV. 1821, Madras Code.

‡ Heads of villages, besides being collectors of revenue, local magistrates, and police officers, are judges with power to try civil suits to a certain amount, and to fine and confine.

their decisions by the rules and ordinances which these regulations may contain. A code of regulations," it is added, "founded on the above principles, will enable individuals to render themselves acquainted with the laws upon which the security of the many inestimable privileges and immunities granted to them by the British Government depends, and the mode of obtaining redress against every infringement of them," &c. &c.

Leaving to others, whose duty it may be, to inquire to whom the neglect, if true, is imputable, I am at present anxious only to obtain, through your valuable work, information as to the result of these two opposite courses of measures. I hope, therefore, some of your intelligent readers, who may possess the information, will inform us what has been the result, in the Ceded and Conquered Provinces in Bengal, of the principles of Government as introduced by Marquess Wellesley, contrasted with the result of a directly opposite course of measures, such as have been explained above, introduced under the presidency of Madras, at the recommendation and under the influence of Sir Thomas Munro.

R. R.

TEACHING OF HINDOOSTANEE.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: The tone of the article on the "Education of Cadets," in your last number, induces me to trouble you with one or two friendly hints, which may perhaps suffice to excite, on your part, a constant vigilance lest multiplied articles, on the "merits of Dr. Gilchrist," all from the same source, should be imposed upon you under the disguise of different signatures. From some expressions in the letter alluded to, I began to suspect that it might have emanated from the learned equivocalist himself;* but though the phrases "you have editorially spoken of"—"the axiom"—"is continually manifest"—and other traces of verbal prodigality are sufficiently pedantic,—still the absence of absurd digression, the introduction of some statements which are to the point, and, above all, the occurrence of a few sentences, in which regard to unity of composition is perceptible, forcibly tend to explode the suspicion that there can be any identity between the author of the encomium and the subject of it.

Dr. Gilchrist's merit is, to have been the first to construct a Hindoostanee Grammar available to the learner, and most eligible when there was no other: his demerit is, to have clogged and deformed this with an obscure surplusage of words, and with an overlaying mixture of rambling impertinence, as it respects both the materials and the method. These pernicious vagaries of the tutor grievously retard the pupil. The same may be said of his other publications. Hence the professors of Fort William College adopt his principles, and discard his works; and other professors cannot do better than follow their example.

SUUM CUIQUE.

London, 7th April 1827.

* * * Other communications on this subject have reached us; but as we have now inserted a letter on each side of the question, we decline, for obvious reasons, admitting more.

* We happen to know that the writer of the letter is an officer in the Bengal artillery.—*Ed.*

DEPENDENCIES OF THE MAURITIUS.*

BEGINNING from the east, and proceeding northwards, the isles and islets dependent upon Mauritius are the following:—

RODRIGUES.

This island, situated in $19^{\circ} 40' 40''$ S. lat., and $63^{\circ} 11' 20''$ E. long., is distant about 300 miles, from point to point, from the island of Mauritius, in a direction E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. It is about eighteen miles from E. to W., and three or four from N. to S.; it contains only 9,000 acres of land adapted for cultivation; the western portion of the island being almost entirely composed of sand and coral, without a supply of water fit to drink. There are two anchorages; one in a safe and commodious harbour in the northern part of the island; the other, which is merely a cove, with a narrow winding entrance, is on the south side. The number of inhabitants on Rodrigues is 123; viz. whites 20, free persons 3, slaves 100. No civil or military establishment has existed there since 1824.

ST. BRANDON, OR CARGADOS CARAYOS.

On the bank of St. Brandon, which is seventy-two miles in circumference, extending about twenty-seven miles from E. to W. and twelve miles from N. to S., are twelve † islets, forming five separate groups, from one to two leagues apart from each other. This bank, situated in $16^{\circ} 26'$ S. lat., and $59^{\circ} 35'$ E. long., is distant (its most southern point) from Port Louis about 246 miles, in a direction N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ N. All the islets are merely masses of coral, more or less elevated above the water, calculated solely to shelter the crews of small vessels employed in the fishery, which is very abundant, and is carried on, throughout the whole extent of the bank, by persons to whom the Mauritius Government has given a private right in these islets. These persons, six in number, have no permanent establishment on them; there is therefore no fixed population here, nor any civil or military establishment whatsoever.

On the 19th March 1826, during a hurricane which lasted eighteen hours, but which was not felt at the Mauritius, four of these islets disappeared, and a fifth, named l'Isle aux Cocos, was separated into two. The crews of two boats, which happened to be there and were lost, were obliged to take refuge in the coco-trees, the islet being under water.

DIEGO GARCIA.

This island, which in form resembles a horse-shoe, and is twelve miles from N. to S., and six miles in its greatest breadth, forms a capacious bay, capable of containing a great number of vessels in safety. It is situated in $7^{\circ} 15'$ S. lat., $72^{\circ} 32'$ E. long., distant from Mauritius 1,176 miles, N.E. 5° E. It produces abundance of coco-trees, and is not unprovided with fire-wood; but the water, which is procured by means of wells dug in the sand, is brackish, though not unwholesome.

The property of this island was granted to and shared amongst three inhabitants of the Mauritius, by a decree of 2d May 1809, on condition of receiving

* Compiled from an official return from the Government of the Mauritius, laid before Parliament agreeably to an address to his Majesty by the House of Commons, and printed by order of the House, 27th February 1827.

† There is an error in the Parliamentary paper in this place: the copy of the original documents, which are in French, has *douze*; the translation, which accompanies them, says *five*. The latter is doubtless incorrect; the translation is, in fact, miserably executed altogether.

receiving such individuals as might be attacked with leprosy, and were sent thither by Government. These proprietors, who reside at Mauritius, have each an establishment on the island of Diego, conducted by a white manager, who sends them the coco-nuts prepared to make the oil, which is manufactured at the Mauritius. The whole population of the island is 276, viz. whites 6, free persons 14, slaves 218, lepers 37.

Since 1825 one of the managers has been entrusted with the maintenance of order on land and in the roadsted, by a regulation of Government, dated 1st June 1824.

LES SIX ISLES,

So called from their number, are situated in $6^{\circ} 35'$ S. lat., $71^{\circ} 25'$ E. long., and are distant seventy-two miles nearly N. W. from Diego Garcia, and 1,188 miles N. E. from Mauritius. These islets, arranged like a horse-shoe, form an anchorage, eight or nine miles in circumference, the entrance of which is towards the north, with two fathoms and a half of water. Coco-trees are plentiful here, and the fishery is very abundant. The surface of the islets, which is of small extent, is nothing but a compound of sand and coral, very little elevated above the surface of the water. A person from the Mauritius has been settled here for about twenty years, with some negroes, but apparently without a grant for that purpose.

LES TROIS FRÈRES.

Between Les Six Isles and Les Trois Frères, which are about eighteen miles apart, two small islets, not yet named, are situated a little to the west. The most southerly is very dangerous, by reason of the reefs which surround it. The northern one is accessible in its N. W. part. The Trois Frères, like the Six Isles, have taken their name from their number. They are situated in $6^{\circ} 10'$ S. lat., and $71^{\circ} 28'$ E. long., 1,209 miles N. E. some degrees N. from Port Louis. In the centre islet is a cove, where coco-trees, fish, and turtle are in great plenty. The water is procured as in Six Isles and in Diego.

By an act of the 18th May 1823, an inhabitant of the island of Mauritius obtained the proprietorship of these islets, where he has established a manufactory for coco-nut oil. He employs forty-three individuals, viz.: white 1, free persons 2, slaves 35, leprous 5.

ISLES SALOMON, OR ONZE ISLES.

These islets, eleven in number, lie in $5^{\circ} 23'$ S. lat., $72^{\circ} 35'$ E. long., distant 1,275 miles N. E. from the island of Mauritius. The soil upon them is, generally speaking, superior to that of all the others of the archipelago, and they are free from rats, which swarm in the preceding. Besides coco-trees, there is a sort of tree found on them, the wood of which is excellent, and the length of the trunk, as far as the first branches, is sometimes forty feet. One of these isles is seven miles and a half in circumference, another four, two of three miles each, six of two miles each, one of one and a half. They encircle a basin, which affords a good anchorage to vessels of moderate size.

These isles have been granted to private persons, four by act 18th June 1822, and the other seven, by act 1st September 1823; these proprietors employ here ten individuals, of whom nine are slaves.

LES PELOS BANHOS.

These are a cluster of twenty-two islets, situated in $5^{\circ} 23' 30''$ S. lat., and $72^{\circ} 3'$ E. long., about 1,260 miles N. E., a few degrees N. from Port Louis: the largest is not more than two miles long. They form a basin eighteen miles

in length by twelve in breadth, having two outlets to the north, one somewhat narrow, the other very dangerous; and a very fine passage to the south.

An inhabitant of the Mauritius, to whom a grant of these islets was confirmed by act 18th May 1823, has formed a very excellent establishment here for the manufacture of oil for fishing, which employs 120 person, *viz.* whites 1, free persons 6, slaves 113.

ISLE LEGOUR.

This island, which was discovered in 1820 by the *Sieur Legour*, is situated in $5^{\circ} 39'$ S. lat., and $72^{\circ} 37'$ E. long., distant from Mauritius N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. about 1,250 miles. Its length is about two miles, its breadth two thirds of a mile; it is divided into two parts by a small canal, one-sixth of a mile broad. Being difficult of access, and having no anchorage, it offers no inducements to settlers. *M. Legour*, to whom it was granted by act 20th Dec. 1820, has, therefore, formed no establishment here. It serves as a retreat to a vast number of turtle and sea-cows.

ISLES GEORGE ET ROQUEPIZ.

These isles, which are placed in $6^{\circ} 20'$, $7^{\circ} 10'$, and $7^{\circ} 15'$ S. lat., and $60^{\circ} 4'$, $60^{\circ} 45'$, and $63^{\circ} 8'$ E. long., are of very doubtful existence. It is extremely probable that some parts of the bank of *Saya de Malha* being exposed, gave navigators reason to infer the existence of these isles, which, if in existence, cannot be of much value.

From the north, proceeding westward, are the following:—

AGALEGA.

This island, situated in $10^{\circ} 29' 50''$ of S. lat., and $56^{\circ} 55'$ of E. long., is about 561 miles N. $\frac{1}{4}$ N. W., some degrees W. from the Mauritius; it is separated into two parts by a canal, nearly 500 toises broad, fordable at low water. It is about eleven miles long, from north to south, by a mile and a half broad, from east to west, and is covered with coco-trees in the centre of three-fifths of its length. It has no vegetative earth, and the water is all brackish, being obtained by means of wells dug in the sand and coral, of which its soil is entirely composed. It is very low and has no anchorage. Nevertheless, an inhabitant of the Mauritius, to whom it was made over by act 28th October 1820, has formed here two excellent manufactories of oil, which employ 199 individuals, *viz.* white 1, free persons 2, slaves 196.

This island, from its situation, has afforded, and still may afford, assistance to navigators.

COETIVI,

Situated in $7^{\circ} 15'$ S. lat., and $56^{\circ} 23'$ E. long., is 768 miles N., 6° W. from Mauritius. It is about nine miles in circumference, and possesses in its N.W. part an anchorage for small vessels, from twenty-five to thirty tons; before which is a roadsted, but with very bad anchorage-ground for large ships. Its soil of sand and coral is mixed with some portions of earth fit for the cultivation of maize, which grows there tolerably well in the 500 or 600 acres adapted for tillage. There is no water but what is drawn from wells, which furnish a brackish kind, as in the other islands reduced to the same expedient for procuring it.

A captain of a merchantman of Mauritius, who obtained the island in 1814, brings thence maize, turtle, and coco-nut oil. He has a small establishment here, where 100 individuals are employed, *viz.* white 1, free persons 19, slaves 80.

ISLES SEYCHELLES.

These islands, thirty in number, of which several are merely islets, form an archipelago, the most considerable of the dependencies of the island of Mauritius, comprehended between $3^{\circ} 38'$ and $5^{\circ} 45'$ S. lat., and between $55^{\circ} 15'$ and $56^{\circ} 10'$ E. long., distant about 115 miles N. $\frac{1}{4}$ N., $3\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ W. from Port Louis. These islands are as follow :—

1. L'Isle Mahé (the principal) having, to the east, and touching it,
2. L'Isle Ste Anne.
3. L'Isle aux Cerfs.
4. L'Isle Anonime.
5. L'Isle du Sud Est.
6. L'Isle Longue.
7. L'Isle Ronde.
8. L'Isle Moyenne, to the west, very near.
9. L'Isle Thérèse.
10. L'Isle de la Conception.
11. L'Isle aux Vaches Marines.
12. L'Isle aux frégates, the most eastern of this archipelago.
13. L'Isle la Digue.
14. L'Isle Praslin.
15. Les Cousin et Cousine.
- 16, 17, 18. Les Trois Sœurs.
19. L'Isle Ronde.
20. L'Isle Aride.
21. L'Isle Félicité.
22. L'Isle Marianne.
23. L'Isle aux Récifs.
- 24, 25. Les deux Isles du Nord.
26. L'Isle Denis, the most northern.
27. L'Isle Curieuse.
28. Les Mammelles.
29. L'Isle Silhouette, the most western.
30. L'Isle Plate, the most southern.

Mahé.—This island is from seventy-five to seventy-six miles in circumference; there are 72,768 acres of land granted in it. It is hilly, intersected with ravines, and full of rocks. Its soil is various, and has in general little depth. It is tolerably well watered. In the eastern part, where the town of Mahé is situated, there is a roadstead, capable of holding about thirty vessels of all sizes. The total population of this island is 5,834,* viz. whites 573, free persons 328, slaves 5,159.

The civil establishment of the island consists of an agent of government, whose authority extends to all the islands of this archipelago; an under-agent, who is also collector of the revenue and registrar of slaves; a justice of peace, two assessors, and a clerk; a commissary of police; a land surveyor. The military establishment consists of fifteen gens-d'armes under the orders of the government agent.

Isle Ste. Anne, the most considerable of the islets forming the road of the Seychelles, is about a league to the eastward of Mahé. It has about 1,200 acres

* It will be perceived that the succeeding items make a total of 6,060: the figures are the same in both parts of the document, so that we cannot remedy the blunder. These disgraceful clerical errors in the official papers are, we are sorry to say, extremely frequent.

acres fit for cultivation, the soil of which is tolerably good. It is inhabited by 246 persons, *viz.* whites 9, free person 1, slaves 236.

Isle aux Cerfs, an islet, near the preceding, and to the south of it, much smaller, and inhabited by only thirty-three persons, *viz.* whites 6, slaves 27.

Isles Anonyme and Du Sud Est, very small islands, near the preceding, and to the south of them; they are neither inhabited nor fit to be so.

Isle Longue. This islet, with the succeeding, called *Isles Ronde and Moyenne*, between, and a little to the east of, the islands of *Ste. Anne and aux Cerfs*, form but one sole and very inconsiderable property; they are cultivated and inhabited by twenty-two individuals, *viz.* whites 8, slaves 14.

Isles Thérèse, De la Conception, and Aux Vaches Marines, are islets situated to the west of, and very near to, *l'Isle Mahé*. They are not inhabited.

l'Isle aux Frégates, the most eastern islet of this archipelago; it is not inhabited, and appears little adapted for being so.

l'Isle la Digue. This little islet, three miles in length, by one and a half in breadth, has no more than 2,000 acres of land fit for cultivation, of which 1,454 are granted, and inhabited by 344 individuals, *viz.* whites 74, free persons 30, slaves 240.

A delegate of the civil agent at *Mahé* resides here, with the honorary title of *Commandant du Quartier*.

Isle Praslin, the largest of this archipelago, after *Mahé*, has scarcely more than a third of its soil fit for cultivation. The census gives 2,514 acres of land as granted. There is tolerably good anchorage in the north, between it and *l'Isle Curieuse*. Its population is 408 individuals, *viz.* whites 53, free people 45, slaves 310.

The police here is confided to a *commandant du quartier*, chosen from among the inhabitants by the agent of government, to whom he is subordinate.

Les Cousins et Cousine are two uninhabited islands.

Les Sœurs are three islets of small extent, on which is a population of fifteen individuals only, *viz.* whites 6, slaves 9.

l'Isle Ronde and l'Isle Aride, two uninhabited islands, close to *Praslin*.

l'Isle Félicité, a small island, of little extent, having only thirty-four acres for cultivation, and a population of fifty-two individuals, *viz.* whites 11, free persons 2, slaves 39.

Les Isles Marianne, aux Rescifs, Du Nord, Denis, Curieuse and Mammelles, are all of circumscribed extent and value, and without inhabitants. The two islands *Denis and Curieuse* are the most considerable. The former is about three miles long, by one and a half broad, and has from 500 to 600 acres of land fit for cultivation. The latter is only two miles long, by one broad, and has no more than 150 acres of arable land.

l'Isle Silhouette. This island, which lies very low, is about nine miles in circumference, and 1,515 acres of its land are divided amongst six proprietors. Its population consists of 136 individuals, *viz.* whites 23, free person 1, slaves 112.

l'Isle Plate. This island, which is of small extent and uninhabited, has been hitherto destined for the quarantine of ships which have contagious diseases on board.

LES AMIRANTES.

The archipelago of the *Amirantes* is a collection of eleven small isles or islets, united together by a bank of sand and coral. They are but masses of coral mixed with sand, very little higher than the level of the sea. Their names are as follow :—

l'Islet Africain.

l'Isle

L'Isle Zemire.
 L'Isle D'Arros.
 L'Isle St. Joseph.
 L'Isle Poivre.
 L'Isle des Roches.
 L'Isle de l'Etoile.
 L'Isle Lampériaire.
 L'Isle de la Bondeuse.
 L'Isle Marie Louise.
 L'Isle des Neuf.

The most northerly, l'Islet Africian, is situated in $4^{\circ} 59'$ S. lat., and $53^{\circ} 32'$ E. long.; the most southerly, l'Isle des Neuf, in $6^{\circ} 12'$ S. lat., and $53^{\circ} 14'$ E. long.; the most easterly, l'Isle Lampériaire, in $5^{\circ} 45'$ S. lat., and $53^{\circ} 46'$ E. long.; the most westerly, l'Isle de la Bondeuse, in $6^{\circ} 12'$ S. lat., and $53^{\circ} 4'$ of E. long. The mean latitude of this archipelago, distant 840 miles N. $\frac{1}{4}$ N.W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. from the island of Mauritius, is therefore $5^{\circ} 35' 30''$ S., and its east longitude $53^{\circ} 25'$.

These islets are without water, and adapted only for the turtle fishery; they are uninhabited, and frequented in the fishing season merely by a few inhabitants of the Seychelles, to whom some of them have been granted, *viz.* l'Isle D'Arros, l'Isle St. Joseph, l'Isle Poivre, l'Isle des Roches, l'Isle Marie Louise, and l'Isle des Neuf.

I'ISLE ALPHONSE.

This island, thirty-six miles to the south of the Amirantes, is situated in 7° S. lat. and 53° E. long., about 804 miles N. $\frac{1}{4}$ N.W. from Mauritius. It is larger than any of the islets of the Amirantes, and has an abundant fishery: it was granted to Mr. G. Harrison, by Act 17th December 1820, but as yet it is not inhabited.

ISLE DE LA PROVIDENCE

Is situated in $9^{\circ} 12'$ of S. lat. and $52^{\circ} 17'$ of E. long., about 726 miles N.N.W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. from Mauritius. This island, which is eight miles in length by one in breadth, has no anchorage. There are coco-trees upon it, and several pieces of good soil; but it has no water. It was granted by an Act of 20th July 1817, to an officer of the health department of the island of Mauritius, who engaged to receive and treat there persons attacked with leprosy. In consequence he formed an establishment, wherein are thirty-five individuals, *viz.* white 1, free persons 7, slaves 25, leprous 2.

LES ISLES JEAN DE NOVE

Are islets, to the number of six, situated in $10^{\circ} 12'$ S. lat., and $15^{\circ} 56'$ E. long., about 675 miles N.N.W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. from Port Louis. They are of very limited extent, and surrounded by reefs, except in the northern part, where there is a passage which leads to a tolerably good anchorage, of five or six fathoms, near the land. These islets, the soil of which is the same as that of the Isle de la Providence, and where a few scattered coco-trees indicate that, with care, that valuable tree might thrive as well as in Providence, were granted to an inhabitant of Mauritius, by an Act of 10th December 1813; who, having died before he had formed any establishment on them, they were granted, by Act 4th February 1826, to the proprietor of Providence, as being necessary to that isle, by reason of the anchorage which they afford for vessels sailing from Mauritius to Providence. The establishment formed here by the grantee employs seven individuals, of whom six are slaves.

ISLE ST. PIERRE.

This uninhabited island is situated in $9^{\circ} 15'$ S. lat., and $50^{\circ} 55'$ E. long., upwards of 750 miles N. W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W., a few degrees N. from Mauritius. It is six miles long, by one mile and a half broad, and almost inaccessible; its coasts presenting nothing but immense blocks of coral, against which the sea dashes violently, excepting a spot on the N.W., where there is a small flat beach of sand. Great numbers of a brown kind of pigeon are found on the island.

L'ISLE ST. LAURENT.

The existence of this island is very doubtful; several captains declare that they have repeatedly passed over the place where it is said to lie, without ever having seen it. On the map of l'Islet Geoffroy it is placed in $9^{\circ} 44'$ of S. lat., and $51^{\circ} 28'$ of E. long., between the islands of Providence, Jean de Nove, and St. Pierre.

ISLE ASTOVE,

Situated nearly N.N.W. from Madagascar, in $10^{\circ} 10'$ of S. lat., and $47^{\circ} 50'$ of E. long., is of little importance, presenting no resources but its fishery. It was granted by Act of 25th January 1821, to two Creoles of the Mauritius, who have not yet taken possession of it.

ISLES COSMOLEDO,

Situated in $9^{\circ} 45'$ of S. lat., and $47^{\circ} 40'$ of E. long., were granted, by Act 21st December 1820, to an inhabitant of Mauritius, who as yet has formed no establishment there. It is of little importance, being surrounded with reefs, with a bank running along almost the whole of its extent.

L'ISLE DE L'ASSOMPTION,

Situated in $9^{\circ} 44'$ S. lat., and $46^{\circ} 40'$ of E. long., is uninhabited, and appears of little value. Like the former, it is surrounded with reefs, except on its N.W. part, where it is approachable.

ISLE ALDABRA.

Aldabra, in $9^{\circ} 22'$ S. lat., and $46^{\circ} 50'$ E. long., is merely a mass of great blocks of coral, intersected by canals; its circumference is about twenty-four miles. This group of small islets of coral is uninhabited, and uninhabitable, having neither land nor water.

L'ISLE NATAL.

A small islet of inconsiderable value, situated in $8^{\circ} 27'$ S. lat., and $46^{\circ} 32'$ E. long.

L'ISLE DE SABLE.

This very small islet, in $15^{\circ} 53'$ S. lat., and $54^{\circ} 43'$ E. long., is about 306 miles N.W. $\frac{1}{2}$ N., some degrees N. from Port Louis; and, properly speaking, is merely a small portion out of water of a bank about sixty leagues in length by ten in breadth, N. by E. of this small islet, and which is very dangerous to navigators.

ISLES ST. PAUL ET AMSTERDAM.

From the south, standing eastward, among the dependencies of the island of Mauritius, lie the islands of St. Paul and Amsterdam. The first, in $37^{\circ} 45'$ of S. lat.; the second, in $38^{\circ} 15'$ of S. lat.; mean longitude 78° E.; and mean distance from the island of Mauritius 1,446 miles S.E., a little S. These islands are difficult of access, affording few resources for subsistence, and exposed to cold and tempests; they have only been frequented by ships going thither in search of sea-cows, which abound there.

DR. GILCHRIST *versus* THE ORIENTAL HERALD.

DR. GILCHRIST has transmitted to us copy of a letter, which he addressed to the editor of the *Oriental Herald* last month, complaining of the misrepresentations and ridicule in that work of the observations which fell from him (Dr. G.) at the East-India House on the 7th February. This letter, he tells us, the editor of the *Herald* refused to insert on account of its length, although, it is added, the editor devoted four pages and a half of small close print to his own statement of the matter, whereas Dr. Gilchrist states his belief that his own letter would not have occupied above half that quantity. The object of Dr. G. was to defend himself against the unjust inferences in the notes which the editor of the *Herald* most unfairly appended to the report of the debate, and especially against the charge of "having avowed principles of action no better than returning a foul expression, or even a blow, with the *secret stab of an assassin*."

In the *resumé* of the subject, given in his last number, the editor of the *Herald* has not admitted, Dr. G. says, a single sentence of his defence against so foul an accusation. Being thus prevented from defending himself in the work wherein he has been attacked (and which is so loud in its professions of impartiality), Dr. Gilchrist requests the admission of his letter in this journal.

A compliance with his request in our present number is impracticable; and we are not sure that, if less encumbered with matter, we should not expect Dr. Gilchrist to remodel and condense his letter (which might be done with great benefit to his case), previous to admitting observations of such length, not directed against any remarks of our's, and respecting a subject (somewhat of a personal nature) with which our readers are already satiated. Desirous, however, as we have always shewn ourselves, to admit, as freely and as promptly as we can with propriety, vindications of such individuals as think it worth while to notice the misrepresentations so common in the work referred to, we subjoin a *review* of Dr. Gilchrist's letter.

The writer begins by expostulating with the editor of the *Oriental Herald* (a work, Dr. G. says, the principles and object of which he has uniformly done every thing in his power to support) for his severe strictures on sentiments contained in the speech in question, which the editor strenuously advocated the last time the same subject was publicly discussed in that work. Dr. Gilchrist then adverts to the sentiment alleged to have been uttered by him at the East-India House (see p. 416), that if a young officer from India attacked him (Dr. G.) with a horsewhip, he would shoot his assailant through the head. Upon which the editor of the *Herald*, he says, remarks, that "to shoot a man through the head would, under such circumstances, be no better than returning a foul expression, or even a blow, with the *secret stab of the stiletto*." Dr. G. asserts that his declaration was only a fair warning, in an open assembly, that if assailed he would use the weapon next at hand, in *self-defence*; and observes, that he is represented by the writer in the *Herald* as evincing a readiness to take away the life of a fellow-creature *on a sudden, unarmed, and unprepared*, and, assassin-like, to *stab him secretly with a stiletto*. Dr. G. adds: "I pray you, look again to the text, and say candidly if, garbled as it is,* it can fairly warrant an interpretation imputing to me a sentiment so atrocious. I spoke of self-defence only, and avowed my determination to obey

* Dr. Gilchrist complains that his speech of *four hours* was slurred over in the *Herald* in *four* pages. In our report the speech occupies nearly *fifteen* pages.

obey the first law of nature, in exercising the right of self-preservation;—a right warranted alike by the laws of nature, the dictates of honour, and the laws of England, which is not surely a nation of assassins.”

The editor of the *Herald* having called in question, the writer says, the degree of utility resulting to young men proceeding to India from acquiring the elementary principles of Hindoostance in this country; and having observed, with flippant levity, that a cadet, who has been a week on shore, knows perfectly well how to call for his claret, horses, dogs, women, and other luxuries, and where to procure them each of the best, &c. Dr. Gilchrist justly remarks that young gentlemen are sent to India, by their parents and the East-India Company, with some higher and more important objects in view than “claret, horses, dogs, women, and other luxuries:” and he recapitulates the obvious benefits which a cadet will derive from acquiring the rudiments of the language in England.

With reference to a remark of Dr. G.’s (see p. 418), that but for an English officer’s accurate knowledge of the French language, Canada might never have been ceded to England; the editor referred to (according to Dr. Gilchrist) has laboured in a long argument to prove that Canada was not ceded to England *merely* because an English officer had learned French well! Dr. G. thinks his exculpation here to be superfluous.

Dr. Gilchrist next comments on the invidious mention in the *Herald* of the names of two individuals engaged in Oriental tuition in this country, and of the proposal that they should pursue their vocation in India; and he remarks, that it is not very liberal in the editor thus to endeavour to influence the public in a way to injure the efforts of those individuals to procure a livelihood; and that to talk of their return to India is a cruel mockery.

In the letter addressed to us, the Doctor makes some further observations upon this subject: he says, “With respect to one remark of his, on the use of the word ‘invidiously,’ I need only observe, that I myself having mentioned certain gentlemen as most laudably and usefully employed here in diffusing a knowledge of Oriental languages, the editor of the *Oriental Herald* named the same gentlemen, for the purpose of saying that it were better they were employed somewhere else (and that in a country where, even if health and other circumstances permitted them to follow such an occupation, it would be by no means reputable, without a public appointment, to adopt a profession followed by thousands of native moonshees of little credit or character): under these circumstances, I consider *my* mention of their names to have been kind and courteous, *his* rather sneering and *invidious*, from the way it was introduced.”

Such appears to us to be the chief points of the “suppressed defence” of Dr. Gilchrist. We cannot quit the subject without urging upon the learned gentleman the absolute necessity, for his own sake, of studying compression; the public will not read compositions, especially on a subject which does not strongly interest general readers, wherein three or four times more is said than necessary.

RULES for the EXAMINATION of the JUNIOR CIVIL SERVANTS of BOMBAY.

DEGREES OF MERIT.	LANGUAGES.	POINTS FOR EXAMINATION.	PRIZES.	REMARKS.
<p>1st. Indispensable qualification for Official employment.</p>		<p>1st. Translations, <i>vis à vis</i>, and without premeditation, into English from a Prose Author, and particularly from Letters and Petitions.</p> <p>2d. Written Translations with premeditation, but without any kind of assistance from English, of a Tale, or similar kind of Narratory Style; and of a Letter, or Petition, or Section of a Government Regulation.</p> <p>3d. Translations, <i>vis à vis</i>, from English, of a Dialogue, or of Questions and Answers proposed by the Examiners.</p> <p>4th. Conversation implying a comprehension of all that is addressed to the Candidate on all common Commercial, Revenue, and Judicial subjects, and a tolerable degree of fluency in replying.</p> <p>5th. A knowledge of the Grammatical Rules and Principles, to be shown by correctly parsing any passage which may be pointed out, or by answering any questions on the subject that may be proposed by the Examiners.</p>		<p>The Characters required to be known at this examination are the printed Naskh, and written Taleek; and the Books to be read such as the Ukiak Hindoo, Bagh o Banar, Khisa Afroj, Toa Kahane.</p>
	Maratha or Goojrātee.	The five points noticed above.	—	<p>The Characters required to be known at this examination are the Balbooth, both for Maratha and Goojrātee, and also the Morse and Goojrātee running hand. The Books such as the Singhasun Batceshee, Panchopakhyan, and Esop's Fables.</p>
	Hindoostanee.		Rupees 800 and a Certificate from the Committee.	<p>The Characters required to be known in this examination are the printed Naskh, the written Taleek, and the Shikasta; and the Books, besides those already enumerated, to be such as the works of Saudā, or Meer Takee.</p>
<p>2d. Qualification for promotion to the Second Step in any line.</p>	Maratha.		Rupees 800 and a Certificate from the Committee.	<p>The Characters required to be known in this examination are Balbooth and Morse; and the Books such as those above specified, and Pandow Pratap, and Tookona Che Ubbang.</p>

3d. { Distinction of "High Proficiency."	Goojralee.	An Examination in the five points above noticed to be passed, according to the judgment of the Committee, in a superior style.	Rupees 800 and a Certificate from the Committee.	The Characters required to be known in this examination are Balboth and the Goojralee writing hand; and the Books such as the Panchopakhyan, Bharata, &c.
	Sanskrit.		Rupees 800 and a Certificate from the Committee.	The Books to be read at this examination such as the Pancha Tantra, Hitopadesa, &c.
	Persian.		Rupees 800 and a Certificate from the Committee.	The Characters to be known at this examination are the printed Naskh, the written Taleek, and Shikasta; and the Books such as the Anwar-i-Sohali, Goolistan, Ayar-Danish, &c.
4th. { Distinction of Extra-ordinary Proficiency.	Maratha, Goojralee, Sanskrit, Persian.	Making ready and correct Translations, from any Book (poetry included) in the language in which the gentleman is examined; holding conversations in such language with any person, and with such degree of facility as the Committee may, with reference to the particular language, deem satisfactory, and generally displaying, under any test which it may occur to the Committee to propose, an extensive, accurate, and intimate knowledge of the language.	Rupees 1,600 and a Degree of honour under the Signature of the Honourable the Governor.	
	Sanskrit and Arabic.	The Sanskrit and Arabic languages generally, and the explanation of Books on Hindoo and Moohummudan Law.	Rupees 3,000, a Medal, and a Prize of Oriental Books.	
5th. { Proficiency in "Hindoo and Moohummudan Law."				

The examinations in the four first degrees are open only to Writers: that in the fifth to every Civil Servant. No Student shall receive two pecuniary rewards on account of the same language; but any Student, who, after receiving a Certificate of "High Proficiency," may become entitled to a Degree of Honour for "Extraordinary Proficiency," shall obtain the difference between the rewards attached to the two degrees of proficiency. The prizes will be granted for examination at the Presidency alone, and the Hindoostanee examination will be confined to the same place; but the examination in the languages which entitle a gentleman to his second step may, for the present, be allowed to take place at out-stations. The examination will be held on the 10th of January, 10th of May, and 10th of October each year, and at no other period. The Candidates for examination to give one month's notice to the Secretary of the Committee, specifying the degree of merit for which they present themselves, and the Secretary will duly inform them of the place and hour of the Committee's meeting.

By order of the Honourable the Governor in Council.
L. R. REID, Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
1st September, 1883.

HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF RAMNAD.

It is perhaps scarcely known in England, that the title to the once opulent raj or principality of Ramnad, or Rámanát'ha, in southern India, which has now dwindled into a zemindarry, has been for a long period depending upon the decision of the Privy Council. Nearly twenty years ago, the succession being disputed by three claimants, the question was referred by them to one of the East-India Company's tribunals, and was eventually brought, by way of appeal, before his Majesty in Council. Upon a motion made by the Marquess of Lansdown, in the House of Peers, for a return of the number of appeals from India, his Lordship took occasion to advert to this in particular; and there is reason to think that he intends to bring the case under the notice of Parliament.

We have been favoured, by an able civil servant of the Company (late collector of the northern district of Malabar), with an historical sketch of the zemindarry), from native authentic sources; and we think that, under existing circumstances, and considering the little information we possess of this part of India, the particulars contained in the paper will be highly acceptable. We have endeavoured, not always successfully, to restore the proper names, which are much disguised by Tamul writers, to Sanscrit orthography.

Ramnad first rose to a state of consequence under the auspices of the celebrated Trinalla Náyaca;* it was greatly extended by his descendants, in return for important military services rendered to them, at periods of danger from Mahratta invasions, by two possessors of Ramnad. It continued for a century to increase in population and military strength; and the possessor of the puttum† received the peculiar title of Sétupati, which literally signifies "protector of the sacred stone," where the pilgrims perform their ablutions in the holy temple of Ráméswarem.

In the year 1734 of our era, when Raghunát'ha Sétupati was in possession of the puttum, the extent of Ramnad was as follows: it was bounded on the north by Devicottah, Manarcoil, and Trivalore, on the south by Vypar; its western boundary approached a small fort within six miles of the fort of Madura; the eastern limit was, and still continues to be, the extremity of Adam's Bridge. During the reign of Raghunát'ha Sétupati, the raja of Tanjore, at the instigation of the dependents of Sétupati's minister, who had been put to death by his master, usurped the districts of Trivalore, Devicottah, and Manarcoil; and from that period they were annexed to the Tanjore kingdom, the limits of Ramnad to the northward becoming then defined by the boundary of Patticottah.

Raghunát'ha Sétupati reigned over Ramnad for thirty-eight years, and during that time he bestowed upon a man named Perya Wudayah Tawen land sufficient for the subsistence of 300 peons, who thenceforward became a petty poligar, under the title of Narcouttah Wudayah Tawen.

Raghunát'ha Sétupati, previous to his death, placed his son, Vidyá Raghunát'ha Tawen, upon the puttum. Narcouttah Wudayah Tawen so completely established himself in the favour of this prince, that he obtained the natural daughter of the raja in marriage for his son, Sheshewarne Tawen, with a dowry in lands sufficient for the maintenance of 1,000 men. As the latter was

remarkable

* The particulars of its origin, and other circumstances connected with its history, may be seen in the History of the Kurtakul of Madura, given in our Journal, vol. xxii, p. 660, and vol. xxiii, p. 9, &c.

† Puttum and puttum in MS. *Qu. pollum?*

remarkable for his courage and for the beauty of his person, he was distinguished above all the inferior poligars in the raja's service, and continued in the quiet possession of his lands, which received a considerable addition during the life of this raja, and for a short space in the reign of his immediate successor, Tundra Tawen. The pretensions of the latter to the puttum being disputed by Bowani Sunkra Tawen, Tundra Tawen stationed the ancestor of the Tondimans in Treemean and Patticottah, to defend the northern boundary. Tondiman established himself in that country, and Bowani Sunkra Tawen, aided by the Raja of Tanjore, dispossessed Tundra Tawen of Ramnad. Bowani Sunkra Tawen remained in possession of the puttum; but Narcouttah Sheshewarne Tawen, prompted by ambitious motives, joined in a conspiracy to eject him, with one Kurta Tawen, who had married a legitimate daughter of Vidyá Raghunát'ha Sétupati, and was otherwise allied to the family.

Bowani Sunkra Tawen defeated their project, and they were forced to fly for safety. The hope of interesting the Raja of Tanjore in their behalf led them to his capital, where they sojourned for a considerable time, in poverty, and without a chance of attaining their object. At length Sheshewarne Tawen gained an opportunity of displaying his courage before the raja by killing a royal tiger in single combat at a public feast. This brave action obtained for him and Kurta Tawen a force sufficient to wrest from Bowani Sunkra Tawen the possession of Ramnad, and to place Kurta Tawen upon the puttum. Kurta Tawen immediately transferred to the Raja of Tanjore (in fulfilment of the condition under which he obtained the force) the territories between Patticottah and Cottah Kurrugar, a small river which runs at the foot of Armogam in the Rasemungalum talook, leaving four of the seventeen talooks now constituting the province of Ramnad (*viz.* Cottaputnam, Goolaganaud, Oroor, and Anoomuntagoody) appertaining to Tanjore; but they were forcibly recovered during the war which subsequently distracted that kingdom.

Kurta Tawen then proceeded to requite the obligations he owed to Sheshewarne Tawen. Having divided the whole raj of Ramnad into fifths, he resolved to give him two-fifths; but the latter, having bribed the sumpradics, who regulated the division, they undervalued the talooks he desired to obtain. The portion made over to him lay wholly to the northward of Ramnad, and near the source of the Vyaz: a circumstance then little adverted to, but which was the cause, in the subsequent division of its waters, of repeated scenes of bloodshed between the two houses. The territory acquired by Sheshewarne Tawen received thenceforward the general name of Sivaganga; but he retained the title of the village whence his family originated, Narcouttah, and he is so recognized in Orme's History.

When Sheshewarne Tawen died, his son and successor, Mutu Wulaga Tawen, refused to pay tribute to the Nawáb of the Carnatic; which occasioned the equipment of a large army to punish him as well as Ramalingum Sétupati of Ramnad, who also resisted the demand. Mutu Wulaga Tawen was slain by a cannon-ball in the fort of Calercoil, and his surviving widow (the late heiress) fled with her daughter, accompanied by the predaun of her late husband and several of her relatives, to Veerapachee, where they were joined by two servants of the old raja, named Vella Murdoo and China Murdoo, the one his dog-keeper, the other his betel-bearer.

These two men, upon the death of the predaun, which happened about six months after leaving Sivaganga, took the lead in the Raní's affairs; and when Hyder Ally attacked Arcot, at the commencement of the war of 1780, the
younger

younger Murdoo, afterwards Sherogar of Sivaganga, having obtained from Seyd Saheb Tippoo's killedar of Dindigul a small force of horse and foot, desolated and burnt the Nawáb's villages to the very gates of Madura, and entered the Sivaganga country. The Nawáb's troops, few and badly disciplined, could offer but little resistance; and as his civil government had not won the people's affection, they crowded to the standard of the Raní, in whose behalf the two Sherogars professed to act, and the entire country was completely subjected by them.

The attack of Hyder was likewise the signal for revolt in the Ramnad country, where different Marawa leaders found no difficulty in totally subverting an authority, which even in peaceable times was devoid of energy, and incapable of resisting the struggles of the people.

The distractions of the Marawas, which were perhaps in a more disordered state at this period than the central parts of the Carnatic in general, during Hyder's invasion, combined with a sense of his weakness dictated to the Nawáb, at this crisis, a temporizing expedient. When his highness, Omdatul-Omrah, who commanded the army sent against Ramnad, took possession of the fort, he sent Mutu Ramalingum Sétupati to Trichinopoly. His restoration was now determined upon, in order to calm the agitations of the country. He was accordingly taken from prison, and placed upon the puttum, with the stipulation of paying an annual peshcush of 1,75,000 rupees; a moderate sum, which was, however, paid with difficulty, owing to the extravagance of Mutu Ramalingum and the mismanagement of his ministers.

Here ends the account of the zemindarry; the sequel, we believe, may be told in a few words: the property descended to a female, at whose death three competitors appeared; and as no tribunal existed by which their claims could be satisfactorily adjusted, besides the Company's courts, a suit was brought, we understand, before the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut, in the year 1808 or 1809; an appeal from the decision of the judges of that court was addressed to the Governor-general (the Marquess of Hastings), who, having no appellate jurisdiction, recommended an appeal to his Majesty.

T O R O S A .

WHAT your lovers say is true,
 Rosa, flow'rs are types of you :
 Your bosom's hue the lily shows,
 The rose's tints your cheeks disclose,
 Your lips with scarlet pinks compare,
 With crisped hyacinths your hair.
 But flowers are of fragile make,
 Dear Rosa, which a storm will break ;
 And a sad truth should be revealed,
 By flatterers studiously concealed :—
 Though flow'rs, like you, are fair and gay,
 In one short summer they decay.

E. R.

Review of Books.

Travels from India to England ; comprehending a Visit to the Burman Empire, and a Journey through Persia, Asia Minor, European Turkey, &c., in the Years 1825-26. By JAMES EDWARD ALEXANDER, Esq., Lieut., late H.M.'s 13th Light Dragoons, and attached to the Suite of Col. Macdonald Kinneir, K.L.S., Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of Tehran. London, 1827, 4to.

Personal Narrative of a Journey from India to England, by Bussorah, Bagdad, the Ruins of Babylon, Curdistan, the Court of Persia, the Western Shore of the Caspian Sea, &c. By Capt. the Hon. GEORGE KEPPEL. London 1827. 2 vols. 8vo.

THAT good is evolved from evil, we are not now to learn: a practical evidence of the axiom may be perceived in the advantages which science has derived from the war to the eastward and that to the westward of India. Our contest with the Burmese has afforded the means of communicating to Europe more knowledge of the Ultra-Gangetic regions than we should have acquired during a century of peace; and the existing war between Russia and Persia, by stimulating the curiosity of readers and the industry of writers, promises to add to our stock of information regarding the last named country.

Both the works mentioned at the head of this article probably owe their existence to the expected avidity of the British nation to learn more of Persia, since it became the scene of hostilities. We shall give precedence in our notice to the last of the two works, because it is most easily despatched.

Capt. Keppel's "Personal Narrative," is written in an easy and agreeable style; it discovers reading and research; it is, we make no doubt, accurate in its details, and it contains well-drawn descriptions. Having said this, we have nearly exhausted the topics of eulogy which the "Narrative" affords. We perceive little in it which is new, that is, which a reader may not find in other publications. The time elapsed since the author travelled in Persia, the short period he remained in that country (about three months), and the hasty manner in which he travelled, prepare us, indeed, to expect little from his work. Its circulation, however, seems to have been extensive; we could scarcely look into a newspaper, soon after the appearance of the "Narrative," without observing copious extracts from Capt. Keppel's work, which might, for any novelty they contained, have been just as well epitomized from Malcolm, Ouseley, Kinneir, or Morier. As a specimen of his style of narration, we quote Capt. K.'s account of the (supposed) ruins of Babel:—

The ruins of the Tower of Babel are six miles S.W. of Hilleh. At first sight they present the appearance of a hill with a castle on the top; the greater portion is covered with a light sandy soil, and it is only in ascending that the traveller discovers he is walking on a vast heap of bricks. This mound, like the Mujillebè, is oblong. The total circumference has been found to be two thousand two hundred and eighty-six feet, which gives to the ruins a much greater extent of base than to the original building. The surplus is very great, when one considers the quantity that must have been removed by the Macedonian soldiers, and how much, in the course of ages, must have been taken by the workmen employed in digging for bricks. The elevation of the mound is irregular: to the west it is one hundred and ninety-eight feet high. On the top is that which looked like a castle in the distance; it is a solid mass of kiln-burnt bricks, thirty-seven feet high, and twenty-eight broad. The bricks, which are of an excellent description, are laid in with a fine and scarcely perceptible cement. At

regular intervals, some bricks are omitted so as to leave square apertures through the mass: these may possibly have been intended to procure a free current of air, that should prevent the admission of damp into the brick work. The summit of the mass is much broken, and the fractures are so made as to carry conviction that violence has been used to reduce it to this state.

Distinct from the pile of bricks just described, and lower down on the north face of the large mound, is another mass exactly similar. Pieces of marble, stones, and broken bricks, lie scattered over the ruin. The most curious of the fragments are several misshapen masses of brickwork, quite black, except in a few places where regular layers of kiln-burnt bricks are discernible: these have certainly been subjected to some fierce heat, as they are completely molten—a strong presumption that fire was used in the destruction of the Tower, which, in parts, resembles what the Scriptures prophesied it should become, “a burnt mountain.”

Travellers who have visited this spot have been struck with the curious appearance of these fragments; and, having only seen the black surface, have altogether rejected the idea of their being bricks. In the denunciation respecting Babylon, fire is particularly mentioned as an agent against it. To this Jeremiah evidently alludes, when he says that it should be “as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah,” on which cities, it is said, the “Lord rained brimstone and fire.” Again, “I will kindle a fire in his cities, and it shall devour all round about him;” and in another place, “Her high gates shall be burned with fire, and the people shall labour in vain, and the folk in the fire, and they shall be weary.”

Taking into calculation the brick mass on the top of the large mound, the ruins are two hundred and thirty-five feet high, which gives nearly half the height of the Tower in its perfect state. Rich thought he could trace four stages, or stories of this building; and the united observations of our party induce the same conviction.

The “Travels” of Lieut. Alexander are for several reasons much more interesting. Although his stay in Persia, as well as in Ava, was short, he enjoyed advantages in his journey through the former country, by being attached to the mission of Col. Kinneir, which compensate for the brevity of his stay. His visit, moreover, is recent, and it took place at a very critical and interesting moment, the eve of hostilities with Russia, which circumstance enabled him to collect on the spot some valuable information respecting the causes and early events of the war, which he has digested into a perspicuous narrative in the appendix to the volume.

Previous to his overland journey to England, through Persia, &c., Mr. Alexander profited by an opportunity to visit the Burman empire. Owing to the war, he could proceed no further than Prome; but he succeeded in accumulating many interesting facts respecting the country and the people of Ava. He describes the Burmans of Pegu, succinctly, as follows:

The inhabitants are stout and athletic: the men are about five feet eight inches in height, seldom taller, with straight muscular limbs; the women are rather diminutive, but well-formed in every respect except the nose, which is commonly flat. Both sexes are of a copper colour: they are lively and inquisitive; they smoke segars constantly: almost all of them read and write; and having no prejudices, they are readily susceptible of improvement and civilization. The women are not immured at home, like those of Hindoostan; they superintend the domestic economy, and weave their own and their husbands' clothes: the latter are checks, of different patterns, resembling tartans. The men wear a single cloth tucked round the loins, and hanging down to the knee; the loose part is thrown across the shoulders, strongly resembling the ancient mode of dress amongst the Scottish Highlanders. Both the men and the women wear the hair of the head long, but eradicate with pincers the hair from the other parts of the body: the men have neither whiskers nor mustachios. The head-dress of the men is a handkerchief twisted round, entwined in the hair in front, and tied in a knot. Sandals

are worn on the feet, consisting of a sole of leather fixed on the foot by two straps, which unite at the great toe. The dress of the women barely serves the purposes of decency: it consists of a narrow piece of cloth, worn over the breasts and tucked in at either side; in walking, one leg is always exposed. Over the lower robe is worn a loose vest with sleeves (commonly white), which reaches to the upper part of the thigh. The hair of the women is divided in front, and tied in a knot behind, in which flowers are entwined. Men and women attain the age of puberty before they marry. Those who can afford it burn their dead; but the poorer classes make a narrow hole in the ground, about three feet deep, and having tied up the corpse in a mat, thrust it in sideways, first carrying it three times round the hole or grave; they then throw the earth over it, trampling it down hard. I observed massive tombstones in several parts of the outskirts of the town, which had been placed over the ashes of poonghees, or inferior priests.

Males and females have holes in the lobes of both ears, in which they stick their segars: they dye their teeth and the edges of their eye-lashes with antimony. The greatest compliment that can be paid a Burman, is to take the lighted cheroot from your mouth and present it to him; he, immediately after placing it in his cheek, performs the shiko, or salaam, with both hands. They are very fond of drinking tea and brandy with Europeans, and eat and drink with them without the least scruple. When the men and women quarrel, they fight it out; the men with their fists, and the ladies with their slippers: they despise the Hindoos for confining their contests to abuse, without coming to blows.

The incidents of the voyage up the Irawaddy; the traits of character observed amongst the various tribes situated on either bank; the description of Prome, seated in a most picturesque country, inviting as they are, must be passed by, in order that we may hasten to the other portion of the volume, which, under existing circumstances, offers "metal more attractive." We must not omit, however, to state, that the author has given a full relation of the military transactions in Ava during the period of his stay, and a complete chronological epitome of the events of the war, from its commencement till its close.

Mr. Alexander left Bombay on the 26th April 1826, in company with Capt. Campbell, second Assistant to the Envoy Extraordinary from the Governor-General of India to the Persian Court. An introductory chapter acquaints us with the circumstances which led to this mission.

During the late continental war, Persia received from the East-India Company a considerable annual subsidy, on condition that she did not suffer our eastern empire to be invaded through her territories. The subsidy ceased with the danger; but it was to be renewed if Persia was attacked by Russia. Arrears of the subsidy were alleged to be due; and Col. Macdonald Kinnear was appointed envoy from the Supreme Government of India to adjust and discharge the claims. The Court of Persia, however, influenced, Mr. Alexander thinks, by Russian influence, refused to receive an envoy not accredited by the King of Great Britain; but the Shah, impatient to touch the money, despatched a British officer (Major G. Willock) on a private mission to Calcutta; and the Supreme Government, rather indiscreetly, settled the claims in this manner. The disclosure of the real views of the Russian cabinet in regard to Persia, and the judicious efforts of our *chargé d'affaires*, Mr. Willock, brought the Persian Court to a better temper, and the Shah agreed to receive the British Envoy.

Passing over the interesting details given by our author of the scenes and incidents which he describes, previous to his departure from Bushire towards Shiraz, we come to that part of the fourth chapter in which is recorded his

visit to Shapoor. As the sculptures at this place have been particularized by preceding travellers, we merely remark that Mr. Alexander's details are succinct and perspicuous.

On arriving at Shiraz, the effects of the earthquake of 1824 were sadly apparent. There is not a single dome or minaret standing; and, from the same cause, the climate has become insalubrious, owing, Mr. Alexander supposes, to the extraordinary rise in the water of the wells, now near the surface, which fills the atmosphere with aqueous particles. He visited, of course, the tombs of Saadi and Hafiz:—

We went on the morning of the 21st to visit the tomb of Saadi, &c. It is about two miles and a half from the Tukht-i-Kudjur, and to the south, situated in a small garden surrounded by high walls. The tomb itself is under cover, and of marble. Inscriptions cover every part of it, being passages from the Koran and from his own works. At the head of the tomb are a pair of nightingales. Outside the garden is a well, with steps to descend to it. It is of octagonal shape, with recesses. Here Saadi used to sit and compose, screened from the heat. The water is beautifully clear.

We next proceeded to the garden of the Dil-i-gooshah. On entering it you are introduced into a little octagonal porch, in which is a cistern of water. Here was painted in very brilliant colours Roustam, the Persian Hercules, throwing himself off his horse, and plunging his dagger into the Deewe-i-Sufeed, or white demon. Down the centre of the garden from the house is a shallow stone channel of water, interrupted every ten or twelve paces by small cascades. We could not gain admittance for some time into the house, as the Prince's women were in it: however, they went to the upper story, and we were allowed to visit the lower apartments. We found them painted and gilded in the most extravagant manner. The ceilings represented furious combats between the Persians, Russians, and Turks; the royal princes were represented larger than the rest, and cutting men down from the crest to the saddle-bow. As usual, no regard was paid to perspective.

We then went to the tomb of the Persian Anacreon, Hafiz, which is about a mile only from the Tukht-i-Kudjur: it is in the midst of other tombs, in a burial-ground enclosed with a wall: but vulgar bones do not repose near him; men of rank alone are allowed that privilege. His tomb is distinguished above the rest by its superior dimensions. The marble, like Saadi's tomb, is covered with inscriptions, beautifully cut. Shiraz is deservedly famed for stone-cutting, enamelling, and seal-engraving. Near the tombs is an open building, in which resides a venerable Fakir, who has charge of a complete copy of the works of Hafiz: this he produced, and we opened the book at random to see what would be our fates, by the *fal*, a kind of divination, like the *Sortes Virgilianæ*.

Mr. Alexander's account of Persepolis is highly curious, and with the help of an admirable lithographic view, affords a more perfect idea of this remarkable scene of ruins than any preceding work. It records, moreover, a very interesting discovery made during their visit. Col. Macdonald having employed some people to clear away the earth from a staircase, a bas-relief was denuded, representing a chimerical figure, being a winged lion or griffin, with a human head bearded, and bearing a sort of tiara, resting one of its paws upon a lotus-flower, supported by a stem like that of the date-tree. Another bas-relief, discovered at the same time, represents a procession: four figures are ascending a flight of steps; the first bears two cups, the second a covered goblet, the third a lamb or kid, and the fourth a skin of water, or more probably wine. They are executed in a very spirited and masterly manner, and are far superior to the sculptures hitherto seen at Persepolis. These bas-reliefs, of which excellent prints in outline are given in this work, will doubtless lead to curious speculations. Are they Grecian or Persian? If the latter, they
prove

prove that the art of sculpture had reached a higher degree of perfection under the ancient monarchs of Persia than has been commonly supposed.

At Ispahan (as at Shiraz), the mission was introduced to the Governor, who is, at each place, a member of the royal family. His Persian Majesty's progeny, even to the third generation, is so numerous, that he is able to provide all the provinces and principal cities with a chief magistrate from his own family. The prince of Ispahan, Sultaun Mahomed Mirza, is a favourite son of the King. He is only fourteen years of age; handsome (as are all the royal family), with a florid complexion. The Envoy here became involved in one of those disputes about forms, which are perpetually annoying a diplomatic personage in Persia, through the contemptible artifices of the court ministers, who are always upon the alert to overreach Europeans in respect to the highly essential points of etiquette. The Prince's prime minister wished to seat his royal highness in an inner room, the Envoy and suite in an outer, with a window between. The Envoy insisted upon sitting upon the numud, or carpet, on which the Prince sat, as he had done at Shiraz; but it was not without great trouble and delay that this (apparently) frivolous obstacle was removed by the concession of the Persian minister. This nobleman, Khoosroo Khan, is a eunuch; notwithstanding this dispute, he received the mission subsequently in a frank and engaging manner; divesting himself of Persian formality, he laughed and joked with the utmost gaiety and good-humour.

At this city, the Persian servants belonging to the mission grew so untractable, that recourse was had to the bastinado. Lieut. Alexander gives the following account of this peculiar operation :

The culprit seats himself on the ground, elevates his feet, which are put into a loose noose in the middle of a fuluk, or stout stick, held by two furashes, or carpet-spreaders; the stick is then twisted, which effectually prevents the offender from withdrawing his feet, and exposes the soles to the strokes of willow-rods applied by two other furashes standing in front. They frequently miss the soles on purpose, and break their sticks over the fuluk, especially if the person operated on pays them well; but turning up the heels of one of the executioners prevents a repetition of this. Miserable is the condition of the unfortunate Armenian who may be subjected to this punishment: his toes are seen to hang down after a few strokes, and not unfrequently the nails are torn from his feet! Persians generally endeavour to spare their fellow Musselmans, if they can do so with impunity; but to a Christian no mercy is shewn. So little sense of shame do the Persians feel, that a person even of rank and family does not consider himself disgraced by having his soles turned up. His Majesty punishes his nobles frequently in this manner.

After visiting the curiosities at Ispahan and Joolpha, the mission departed for the royal camp at Sultaneah. In some of the villages beyond Ispahan, the natives hardly understood a single word of Persian: to the northward and westward of the city Turkish is generally spoken. Of this fact, and of the rude manners of some of these villagers, Mr. Alexander had a disagreeable proof, in the route to a place called Zohra. Having, in company with Capt. Campbell, lost the way, and being benighted, they saw a man, at a village in the nook of a glen, who most ungraciously, and only in consideration of a present, agreed to point out the road. Something displeasing him, he summoned the rest of the villagers, who attacked the party, and on being spoken to in Persian, said, "we speak Turkish, and know nothing of your Persian." Both Lieut. Alexander and Capt. Campbell received severe wounds, and had a narrow escape.

Just before the mission reached Ardebeel, news arrived that the King's camp had been transferred to Achar. At Ardebeel they found and conversed with
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the Russian officers taken prisoners by Prince Abbas Mirza at Kunjeruk, one of whom was a colonel.

In the neighbourhood of Ardebeel is the lofty mount Sevelund, about 8,000 feet in height, capped with eternal snow. Our author furnishes a very amusing account of an expedition to its summit by Mr. Willock and Lieut. Shee. They experienced much difficulty in reaching the summit, where they found the tomb and body of the *frozen prophet*, said to have lain there from time immemorial. The details of the visit are interesting, but we cannot afford space for them.

On approaching the royal camp at Achar, the Envoy was met by the *istakball*, and was escorted to the tents prepared for the mission. The scene was splendid and imposing. The public audience given to the British Envoy was attended with very flattering circumstances, singularly contrasted with the cold reception of Prince Menzikoff. The Shah twice pressed the British Envoy to sit.

Mr. Alexander describes the Shah as a very sensible man (except in regard to money-matters); "he is beloved by his subjects, his rule is mild, and he seldom punishes with severity, except unpardonable offences." In respect to money, he is mean to a great degree. His favourite wife, the Taj-i-Dowlah, is a very sensible and superior woman; she was formerly a dancing girl of Ispahan, was noticed by the King for her shrewdness, and has reigned sole queen of the harem for thirty years. The harem contains 1,000 ladies; and his Majesty's children amount to 100. If we may judge from the following anecdote, the latter have no very agreeable matter for contemplation.

The lady of Dr. Macneil, the physician to the mission, was one day in the zenanah, when she observed one of the princes, a boy of ten years of age, with a handkerchief tied over his eyes, groping about the apartment. Upon inquiring what he was doing, he said that, as he knew that when the Shah, his father, died, he should have his eyes put out, he was now trying how he could do without them.

After a stay of about three weeks at the royal camp, our traveller left it for Tabreez, on his route to England, in company with Mr. Willock, who was deputed from the Persian Court to solicit the mediation of the British Cabinet in adjusting the differences between Persia and Russia. We must despatch the subsequent portion of the volume in a few words: the party left Tabreez, and crossing the Arras, reached Erivan, where the Surdar refused them admittance into the fort. They had a view of Ararat, and crossing the Harpasus (*hód. Arpachai*), entered Armenia. Crossing the Euphrates, they entered soon after the pachalik of Trebison, and traversing Asia Minor, arrived at Constantinople, where they spent five days in surveying some of the ancient relics of this capital of the Cæsars. They then traversed European Turkey, and travelling through Transylvania, Hungary, Austria, Bavaria, and the Netherlands, at length came in sight of the white cliffs of Albion.

The "Summary of the Causes and Events of the existing War between Russia and Persia," which is given in the Appendix, contains a valuable body of information. We are precluded by our contracted limits from touching upon this part of the work; but we must have recourse to it in an article which we intend for our next number. ●

The illustrations deserve particular notice. They are beautifully executed. The view of Persepolis we have already commended; that of Shiraz is nearly of equal merit. The Burman group, the trooper of the escort, the Palace of Sultaneah, are all excellent, as well as the maps. A comparison between Lieut. Alexander's prints and the execrable pieces which disfigure Capt. Keppel's book, is highly to the advantage of the former.

La Secchia Rapita; or the Rape of the Bucket: an Heroi-comical Poem in twelve Cantos. Translated from the Italian of Alessandro Tassoni. With Notes. By JAMES ATKINSON, Esq. London. Two vols. 8vo. 1827.

MR. ATKINSON is a resident at Calcutta, where his literary talents are well known. He is the author of the "City of Palaces," and other poems, which have been published at the metropolis of British India, and have met with a favourable reception there. In the present work he has attempted a very arduous undertaking, to which he was perhaps partly impelled by reflecting that failure would be no disgrace, since it might justly be said *magnis tamen excidit ausis*. There is not perhaps a more difficult, we had almost said impossible, task, than to render a burlesque poem out of one language into another, without sacrificing the spirit, the point, the humour, the satire of the original, and substituting flatness and insipidity.

Tassoni is an Italian author celebrated for his satirical vein. The present poem was written by him in 1611, but was not published till 1622. It was thus long antecedent to the *Lutrin* of Boileau and Pope's "Rape of the Lock," and is a very early specimen of the mock heroic style of composition. The title of the poem is derived from a frivolous incident which occurred in the war between the states of Modena and Bologna in 1249, occasioned by the feuds of the Guelph and Ghibelline factions.

The immediate object of the poem is not apparent; some perceive a political design in it; others conclude that Tassoni adopted the ludicrous story of a war, in which a wooden bucket was the only prize, as a convenient vehicle for satirizing his enemies and flattering his friends: though the ground-work of the poem is built on history, the characters are chiefly the author's contemporaries. Mr. Atkinson says of the original:

The poem is written with great felicity of expression, and there are fine examples in it of almost every species of composition. Many of the descriptive passages are exquisitely touched, many passages are extremely grand, and there are many beautiful specimens of the pathetic. Yet humour is the pervading quality. It is mixed up with admirable effect in every Canto, and sparkles through every scene of the amusing story.

It would occupy more space than we are authorized to assign to a work not of an oriental character, were we to examine the translator's labours critically. We dare not say that Mr. Atkinson has succeeded in giving us the exact image of Tassoni's satire, for that is next to impossible; but that he has not been altogether unsuccessful in his translation we think will be inferred from the following stanzas, containing a burlesque description of the heathen deities, which we subjoin as a specimen:

Fame, meanwhile, heavenward flapped her spreading wings,
And bore the wondrous news to Jove's abode;
And to the sovereign told what mighty things
By wayward Fate had from a Bucket flowed;
Jove, who to human kind so loving clings,
And deeply feels their woes, a heavy load;
Orders the bells to ring at all the portals,
To call to solemn council the Immortals.
O'er rolling stars, from heavenly stalls advancing,
The coaches soon were seen, and a long train
Of mules with litters, horses fleet and prancing,
Their trappings all embroidery, nothing plain;
And with fine liveries, in the sun-beams glancing!
More than a hundred servants, rather vain
Of handsome looks, and of their stature tall,
Followed their masters to the Council Hall.

First came the Prince of Delos, Phoebus hight,
 In a gay travelling carriage, fleetly drawn
 By six smart Spanish chestnuts, shining bright,
 Which with their tramping shook the aerial lawn;
 Red was his cloak, three-cocked his hat, and light
 Around his neck the golden fleece was thrown;
 And twenty-four sweet damsels, nectar-sippers,
 Were running near him in their pumps or slippers.
 Pallas, with lovely but disdainful mien,
 Came on a nag of Basignanian race;
 Tight round her leg, and gathered up, was seen
 Her gown half Greek, half Spanish; o'er her face
 Part of her hair hung loose, a natural skreen,
 Part was tied up, and with becoming grace;
 A bunch of feathers on her head she wore,
 And on her saddle-bow her falchion bore.
 The Paphian Queen for her accommodation
 Had two state coaches; richly decorated
 Was that in which she sate in conversation
 With Cupid and the Graces; on them waited
 Pages in habits suited to their station,
 The other coach, with courtiers gay was freighted.
 The chamberlain and tutor, debonnaire,
 And the chief cook, Dan Bacon, too, were there.
 Saturn was old and ill of a catarrh,
 And just had taken physic: therefore rightly
 Came in a litter shut up from the air,
 With vase beneath the cushion, fitting tightly.
 On a fine charger came the God of War
 Capering along, unusually sprightly.
 His boots were scoloped, and his corslet leather,
 And in his hat he wore a scarlet feather.
 But Ceres and the God of Wine appeared
 At once, conversing; and the God of Ocean
 Upon a dolphin's back his form upreared,
 Floating through waves of air with graceful motion;
 Naked, all sea-weed, and with mud besmeared;
 For whom the mother, Rhea, feels emotion,
 Reproaching the proud brother, when she meets him,
 Because so like a fisherman he treats him.
 Diana, the sweet virgin, was not there;
 She had risen early, and o'er woodland green
 Had gone to wash her clothes in fountain fair,
 Upon the Tuscan shore—romantic scene.
 And not returning till the northern star
 Had rolled through dusky air and lost its sheen:
 Her mother made excuses, quite provoking,
 Knitting at the same time a worsted stocking.
 Juno-Lucina did not go, and why?
 She anxious wished to wash her sacred head.
 Menippo, Jove's chief taster, standing by,
 For the disastrous Fates excuses made.
 They had much tow to spin and lint to dry,
 And they were also busy baking bread.
 The cellarman, Silenus, kept away,
 To water the domestics' wine that day.

VARIETIES.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of this society was held on the 1st November, when the Hon. Mr. Harington presided. C. Paton, Esq. was elected a member of the society, and Major-Gen. Walker, an honorary member. Various musical instruments, from Aracan, were presented to the museum by Dr. Tytler; and various objects of natural history, from Tucopia and New Guinea, by Capt. Dillon. With reference to the public communications made by this gentlemen, regarding the loss of La Perouse, the society resolved to submit to the government the expression of the interest felt by them in the probable result of any inquiry that might be instituted to discover the scene of his unfortunate fate.

The communications laid before the meeting were, Notes on various animals in the northern mountains, of which the specimens of the horns were exhibited; and remarks on the snake stone, by Capt. Herbert; the translation of the inscription on the great bell, at Rangoon, with illustrative comments, by the Rev. Mr. Hough; and a Memoir on the Bhote Mehals of Kamaon, by the commissioner Mr. Trail.

The following is the enumeration of the horns submitted to the society, and the animals to which they belong.

No. 1.—Of the *Jurao*, (*Cervus Hipelaphus* of Du Vaucel).—A very good lithographic engraving of this animal was given in the last volume of the *Researches*. It is as common in the lower part of the mountains as it is in Bengal. It is a large sized species, of a dark colour, something between grey and russet, stands about thirteen and a half or fourteen hands high, and is remarkable for the small number of the antlers, which are never more than in the specimen. In one instance, a single horn weighed eight pounds within two ounces. Three individuals of this species are in the possession of Major Young, at Dehra, where they eat from the hand, and are almost perfectly tame.

No. 2.—Of the *Capra Iber*, now for the first time noticed as an inhabitant of the mountains.—Capt. Herbert has never seen the animal, but understands it to be of a dark colour, and something larger than a common sheep. It abounds in Kanour, where it is called *Sgin* or *Zgin*, and is hunted in common with the musk-deer (*moschus moschiferus*) and the *Ther*.

No. 3.—Horns of the *Ther*, a new species of *Capra*, which might with propriety assume the specific name of *Leonina*, *Asiatic Journ.* VOL. XXIII. No. 137.

the peculiar appearance of the animal consisting in a very fine mane, similar to that of a lion. An inspection of the horns will satisfy any one who knows the character of the chamois, with which it has been confounded, of their specific difference, and they have been pronounced by a gentleman who has seen much of the Alps. and has repeatedly had the horns of the chamois in his possession, to be of a very different character. The animals inhabit the most difficult peaks, keeping always very near the verge of snow, and their pursuit is equally hazardous with that of the musk-deer and the ibex.

No. 4.—Horns of the *Surao*, a species of antelope, apparently a new one. It is of a size rather above the middle, is a heavy sluggish looking animal, and when young, is not very unlike a calf. It is of a black or dark brown colour, with tan on the face, breast, and legs. It also inhabits the higher and colder regions.

No. 5.—Horns of the spotted deer of the northern plain, (*cervus axis*). This animal abounds in the jungles, at the foot of the hills.

No. 6.—Horns of the hill sheep.

The snake stone is well known throughout the East as a supposed antidote against poison, particularly the venom of snakes. It is of two kinds, one of animal, the other of mineral origin: of the former, an analytical examination was published in the thirteenth volume of the *Researches*, by Dr. Davy, with additional remarks by the Secretary. It is to the latter that Capt. Herbert's inquiries have been more particularly directed. Three sorts of the mineral snake stone are procurable in the Himalaya—one is found with detritus, in a cave in Jawahir, leading into the valley of the Setlej; it is of irregular form, smooth surface, and of an olive green colour: from its chemical characters, it seems to be a new mineral, consisting chiefly of silica. The other two kinds were met with in the bazar at Haridwar, and, although differing in external characters, are essentially the same—one is of a bright greenish colour, and the other a dull green; they also vary in specific gravity, but they are both considered by Capt. H. to be varieties of serpentine, a name which has been given to a mineral substance, without any satisfactory reason, and which he thinks, therefore, may be connected with the terms snake stone, pierre de serpent, &c., attached to the zehr molereh of the East, as an antidote against the venom of snakes.

The inscription on the great bell, at
4 Q Rangoon,

Rangoon is in the Burman language and character, and is cut in twelve lines round the circumference of the bell. It records, in the usual strain, the virtues of the grantor and the merits of the grant. The bell, from its size, is a curious specimen of the progress made by the Burmans in the art of fusing and casting metal, as it forms a rather unmanageable mass, being declared to weigh 15,555 vis, or about 56,000 pounds. The great bell of St. Paul's weighs but 11,470 pounds; and there are few bells in Europe larger than the Rangoon bell, except the *tsar kolokol*, or king of bells, of Moscow, which weighs 432,000 pounds.

The Rangoon bell was presented about forty-five years ago, to the temple of Swé-dagon, by Sengku, the grandson of Alaung-phum, whom Europeans call Alompra. In the late war it was removed from the temple, and an attempt was made to put it on board ship, but in so doing it fell into the river, whence, after remaining some months, it was again raised and restored to its former situation. The illustrations accompanying the translation afford much new and accurate information on many points of the Burman religion, and on the history of the celebrated Swé-dagon pagoda, the sanctity of which building is derived from its enshrining the relics of the four last Buddhas, the staff of Kauk-ka-thian, the water pot of Gau-na-gon, the bathing garment of Ka-tha-pa, and eight hairs from the head of Gautama. We believe these most sacred objects escaped the sacrilegious hands of our soldiery.

The Bhote Mehals are that part of the Himalaya range which constituted the Bhote province of Tibet, and commence on the north from the table land beyond the mountains: they comprise the different passes into Tibet, and some of the loftiest peaks in the Himalaya, and are now attached to the states of Kamaon and Gerhwal. Their population is estimated at 10,000 individuals, of whom nine-tenths are Bhotéas. The greater portion of the surface is above the line of perpetual congelation; but even in such portions as are cultivated, snow lies on the ground during full half the year, or from September to April: an interval of four months without a fall is unusual. The chief crops are buck-wheat and barley, which are sown early in June, and reaped in September; but the crops are not unfrequently injured or destroyed by an early occurrence of frosts or slips of snow beds, the lower deposit of which is pushed from its site on the sides of the mountains, by the weight of a fresh accumulation nearer to their summits. The inhabitants of the country are identifiable in every respect with those of Tibet, and in many of the villages tradition still preserves the

memory of their emigration from that country. Those who are settled at the Darma Ghat, however, are a distinct race, and are said to be the descendants of a body of Mongol Tartars, who were left by Timur to maintain Kamaon in subjection: they themselves do not admit this descent, especially as they have ceased to be Mohammedans; but the tradition is, nevertheless, entitled to credit. The Bhotéas are originally Buddhists, and disciples of the Lama of Tibet, but their subjugation by the Gorkha government has introduced many Hindu doctrines amongst them, and they worship the divinities of both religions, and employ equally as their priests, Brahmans or Lamas. They have properly no distinction of caste; but the difference of tribe prevails amongst them as strongly, and in many instances, those of one village will neither eat nor intermarry with those of another. The Bhotéas enjoy the monopoly of the carrying trade from Hindustan to Tibet, the greater parts of which are in the adjoining province of *Hinn Dés*, (the land of snow, not *Con Dés*, as originally supposed, or the land of the wool of the shawl goat), and which, besides its central position, is rich in natural produce, in gold dust, borax, salt, and shawl wool, and at the same time, from its own sterility, depends upon the surrounding countries for every article of domestic consumption. The traders from Tibet, Ladakh, Cashmir, Tartary, China, and Hindustan, meet annually at a great fair held at Gertokh, the residence of the Viceroy of Lassa. The intercourse with this state is, however, subjected to the restraints imposed by the Chinese, and a special permission from the government is annually necessary for the traders of *Hinn Dés* and Bhote to open a commercial intercourse. The staple commodity of the Bhotéas is grain, which they collect from the villages of Kamaon and Gerhwal, in exchange chiefly for salt;—other articles suited to the *Hinn Dés* market, and exported to a small extent, are coarse woollen cloths and cottons, coral, pearls, hardware, sugar, spices, dyes, timber, &c. The cost of carriage, and the difficulties thrown in the way of it by the Bhotéa carrying monopoly, and the cautious fears of the Gertokh rulers, keep it confined infinitely below its natural level. Of the character of the Bhotéas it may be observed generally, that they are an honest, orderly, and industrious race, good humoured and patient. — *Cal. Gov. Gaz.*

MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of the society was held on the 2d Sept., Mr. Wilson, the vice-president, in the chair.

The

The following papers were submitted to the meeting:—a case of fungus hematomas, by Mr. McPherson of Bhamaliah, with a preparation of the tumor; account of gangrenous ulcer, as it appeared in the 65th N. I. at Pinang, by Mr. Leslie; and the notice of a specific for cholera, in use at the Cape, communicated by Mr. Chalmers: a letter from the secretary to the Madras Medical Society, with the report of their proceedings, and a description of the native drug, called *gulantha*, by Ram Commol Shen, communicated by the vice-president.

The South African specific for cholera has been discovered, it is said, by the Moravian Missionaries, who keep its preparation a secret, although not unwilling to communicate it hereafter, should the trial of it in India establish its value. In two cases of spasmodic cholera, in the Male Asylum at Madras, it has been administered with the happiest effects. A small supply is on its way to Calcutta, for further investigation.

The *gulantha* is a drug very extensively used in a variety of complaints by the natives, and very frequently with advantage: it is the *menispermum cordifolium* of Willdenow. It is administered in the form of decoction and infusion, and a mucilaginous extract is separated from the stem, which is found serviceable in some cases of membranous inflammation. The decoctions are given in intermittents, and a variety of cutaneous complaints, and are considered to possess active restorative virtues: the taste of the fresh stem is a mild, and not unpleasant bitter.

Dr. Waddle's account of the diseases of Rangoon, and Dr. Sully's treatment of hydrophobia were then read, and made the subjects of remark. The communication of Dr. Waddell was restricted to the diseases of the first twelve months after the occupation of Rangoon, which occurred in the hospital under his charge, comprising details of European and native artillery: his observations on the medical topography of Rangoon are of generally interesting character.

The town stands on the north bank of the Rangoon river, about twenty-eight miles above its debouché into the gulf of Martaban. Its extent along the river is about a mile, and its breadth six or seven hundred yards. It is enclosed with teak timbers and planks ten or twelve feet high, having two gateways on the north face, and one on each of the others: from each of the northern gateways proceeds a good brick road, running over a gently rising ground, and gradually converging till they unite at the distance of two miles and a half, in front of the Sho Dagon pagoda. The space between these roads being tolerably clear of jungle, was selected for the quartering of the troops.

The ground sloped considerably to the west of this triangle, and the lines rested on a thick wood, which closed in to the north and north-east. On the eastern line, particularly on the approach to the pagoda, the ground rose abruptly to an elevation of two hundred feet from the surface of the river, and from the summit of the acclivity an extensive view presented itself over a tract consisting of low rice fields, and intersected by the ramifications of the Rangoon and Syrian rivers. This tract being left uncultivated, became, in the rains, one extensive swamp. The town itself is divided into streets, running, for the most part, parallel, and the transverse lines crossing at right angles. The streets are narrow, but formed of pounded brick, with a rise in the middle to throw off the water; and when the streets were put in repair, the town itself was sufficiently healthy and commodious. The same cannot be said of the suburbs running east and west of the town, many of the houses of which are constructed on piles within high water mark; and at low water the exhalations from the mud, from the filth thrown upon the bank from the houses above, and from the putrescent fish which the Burmese use largely in preparing their favourite dish *bahachong*, rendered the atmosphere, during the ebb-tide, singularly and disgustingly offensive. The water of the river is turbid, but except in the hot months, when it becomes brackish, is considered sufficiently wholesome. The troops, however, were supplied from wells, the water of which Dr. W. considers to have been perfectly good, although some difference of opinion prevailed upon the subject. The climate offers much analogy to that of Bengal, being similarly divisible into the cold, hot, and rainy seasons. In November, the thermometer ranges from 60 to 86. March and April are the hottest months, and the range of the thermometer is then widest, being sometimes 72, at four or five in the morning, and 101, at two or three in the afternoon of the same day. These variations, however, are not considered hurtful to the health, as the coolness of the night compensates, in some degree, for the heat of the day. The air is dry; the first showers fall early in May; the regular rains set in by the first week of June, and cease about the 10th or 15th October. The fall of rain is much more considerable than any known in Hindustan, and in July and August, often continues for several days and nights together. In the intervals, the weather is oppressively close and moist, and during the fall, as uncomfortably chilly, a cold wind accompanying the rain, and bringing down the mercury ten or twelve degrees. In such a climate it was impossible for troops to be engaged in active military operations

without suffering severely from disease. During the time from June to October, the average monthly admission of sick in the detachment under Dr. W.'s charge was equal to one-third of the whole numerical strength, and in some divisions, the proportion was still more considerable. The deaths amongst the Europeans of the artillery were as one in twelve, and amongst the natives, something less than one in twenty. On the setting in of the cold season, the general sickness began to decline, and from January to July, was comparatively moderate.

The especial object of Dr. Sully's paper on hydrophobia, is to recommend the careful and continued ablution of the wounded part before excision with water poured from some height above the limb. Dr. S. attributes to this practice the successful treatment of a number of cases in the west of England by his father and himself, or altogether twenty-eight, of whom twenty-three escaped from any serious consequences from the bites they had suffered.—[*Ibid.*

With reference to the last subject adverted to in the proceedings of the medical society, we may observe, that a discovery has been recently made, which, if confirmed by experience, will be one of the most important in the history of medical science. Dr. Barry, an English physician settled at Paris, has advanced, that absorption depends upon atmospheric pressure, and that by removing this pressure, poisons applied to wounded parts will not be introduced into the system. Upon the bite of a snake, or any rabid animal, therefore, a cupping-glass should be applied over the bite, which will at least suspend the operation of the virus until surgical aid can be obtained. But Dr. Barry goes still further, and asserts, that by the continued application of the cupping-glass for some time, the absorption of the poison will not only be suspended, but the disposition to take it up be so weakened, that it may be altogether prevented by merely washing the wound. He also maintains, that even after a part of the poison has been absorbed, and has begun to produce its effects upon the system, the application of a cupping-glass will arrest its further influence. These doctrines rest upon a number of experiments, in which arsenic, prussic acid, strychnia, the upas tiente, and the venom of the viper, have been made use of with impunity wherever the glass was applied, and fatally whenever its application was omitted. The results of Dr. Barry's inquiries have been submitted to the academy of medicine, and are the subject of a favourable report by Messrs. Cuvier and Dumeril, to whom his communication had been referred.—[*Ibid.*

A meeting of the society was held on

the 4th Nov., Mr. Wilson, vice-president, in the chair.

Specimens of agates and other minerals from Guzerat, with observations, were presented to the museum by Dr. Kennedy, and specimens of the true West-Indian arrow-root, reared in this country, by W. Leycester, Esq., the president of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society. Cases of the employment of the oxymuriate of mercury, by Mr. Cockerell, a successful case of strangulated hernia, by Mr. Charters, and an essay on public health in India, by Dr. Rankin, were submitted to the meeting, and reserved for future consideration.

Although the *thikur* of this country is a valuable substitute for the *maranta arundinacea*, or arrow-root of the West Indies, it does not preclude the introduction of the latter as a more nutritious vegetable. The specimens submitted on this occasion were reared by Mr. Leycester from tubers, procured by him at the Cape, from the Isle of France, and were brought round on board ship, after being planted in boxes. They were removed thence into the open ground, and have been exposed to the hot winds and the rains: three tubers taken up, were found divisible into fifty parts, each of which comprised a tuber, and would therefore grow. The tubers now produced are not so thick as those of the West Indies, but they will probably become larger.

Of the minerals forwarded by Dr. Kennedy, he observes, that the sites in which they are procured, depend upon the information obtained from Camluy merchants, except the Carnelian mines, which are described in the first volume of the Transactions of the Literary Society of Bombay, from actual observation.

The agates are procured from the district of Kopurwunj, the chief town of which is about forty miles east of Ahmedabad. The jaspers are obtained about eighty miles north of the same place, from the Eder mountains, the marble barriers that divide Marwar from Gugaral. The moss-stone is found in veins, in the bed of the Limree river, in Kattiwar. The collection comprises another variety of mineral, which is considered by Dr. K. to be a marble of the coarsest grain; it is brought from the mountain of Deykerwara, nearly half-way between Ahmedabad and Rulanpur, and is termed by the natives, *sengi herefi*, or letter-stone, from the supposed resemblance of its veins to oriental characters. It is obtainable in any quantity, and at the lowest possible cost. The mountains to the north and north-east of Guzerat abound with every variety of marble, and they are of the most easy access, rendering the transport so cheap, that in the surrounding country, in earlier times, this material

material has been lavishly expended, and the mounds enclosing the Dunderpur lake, a piece of water of vast extent, are composed of solid blocks of white marble. The tombs and mosques of Ahmedabad afford abundant specimens of marble of the most beautiful description. The great mart for the polished agates, &c. is Cambay, where the material and the labour are both so cheap, that a seal stone of the best sort may be purchased for one rupee, and the most beautiful set of female ornaments that can be selected, does not cost more than fifty—the price of ordinary sets varies from eight rupees to twenty-five.—[*Ibid.*

NEW SOUTH WALES AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of this society was held at the Sydney Hotel, 30th August: Sir John Jamison, the president, in the chair.

Several premiums were announced for agricultural stock, to be awarded at the general meeting, on the 5th October.

The following resolutions were agreed to be proposed to the general meeting.

Resolved, that this meeting, viewing with the utmost regret, the languor which appears to have pervaded the members of this society, as exhibited by the paucity of their numbers attendant upon the periodical meetings during the last twelve months, do most earnestly call upon the whole body of subscribers to bestir themselves, and again to unite for promoting their general benefit. The attendance, the suggestions, the example of practical men, can alone keep a society of this nature in existence; and this meeting are convinced, that few agricultural societies can boast of men more capable of affording the so much desired aid, than does that of New South Wales.

Resolved, that for the furtherance of the ends proposed by the formation of this society, and for directing the views of its members to the most legitimate objects for their attention, it is desirable that essays upon the best modes of conducting the farming operations of this colony should be prepared and published at stated periods, for general information.

At a quarterly general meeting, held at Paramatta, Oct. 5, the prizes were distributed, and additional premiums were awarded; amongst which was one to Mrs. Walker, on the exhibition of colonial silk, which that lady had caused to be produced, and afterwards to be manufactured into a shawl in China.

The recommendations of the especial meeting, 30th August, were all adopted unanimously, except one of them relative to Mr. Fraser's cotton; the adoption of this recommendation was merely post-

poned till the next meeting, in order to afford Mr. Fraser time to furnish the meeting with a sample of the cotton, and with the report thereon of the Glasgow manufacturer.

(It appears from a Sydney paper, that Mr. Fraser has shipped a small quantity of samples of colonial grown cotton to England; and the colonists express a confident expectation that it will become a staple article of export.)

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Wednesday meetings of this society during the last month have been numerous attended, and the lectures at three o'clock have excited much interest. At three of these meetings, the secretary delivered discourses on the affinities that connect the different groupes of ornithology, illustrating the subject by specimens of the most attractive groupes in the society's collection. Several ladies of rank were present at these exhibitions. A lecture has also been given by Mr. Brookes, the celebrated anatomist, on the comparative anatomy of the ostrich. A fine opportunity was afforded for illustrating this subject, by a donation from his Majesty of a female ostrich, which lately died in the menagerie at Windsor. Preparations were made of the more interesting parts of this bird, which, with specimens of various parts of the emeu, cassowary, rhea, &c. selected from Mr. Brookes's museum, served to illustrate this very erudite and scientific lecture. A numerous audience of the principal men of science in town was collected on this occasion.

MINERALOGY OF CEYLON.

The following facts relating to the mineral productions of the Tangalle district were laid before the Literary Society of Colombo on the 17th October, by Sir Hardinge Giffard, the chief justice of Ceylon.

Mr. Gisborne, the collector of Tangalle has been for some time past engaged in opening a canal, by which a supply of fresh water may be conveyed to the port of Tangalle from the lake of Kireme; and a large and valuable tract of country, now totally waste, rendered capable of irrigation, and consequent cultivation. The supply of Tangalle alone is an object of great importance to the district, as nothing else is wanting to render that secure, though small harbour, perfectly commodious to shipping.

In digging through a hill covered with old and thick jungle, the workmen, at a depth of fifteen feet, struck upon a large hollow substance, having the appearance of pottery; one of the tools broke a hole into

into it, but the mass was afterwards carefully separated by Mr. Gisborne's direction from the surrounding clay rock. This clay rock is that called cabook in the vernacular language of Ceylon, and is the laterite* of Ainslie.—(*Mat. Med. Hindost.*) The mass, on being examined, appeared on the outside to be rough, and partaking of the appearance of the surrounding rock; the inside was highly glazed, and of a deep black colour; in length it was twenty-two inches, and in breadth fifteen; the shape was more nearly oval than any other, but by no means regular. It appeared to have been perfectly close before it was struck, and the hollow contained only air. The shell or crust, of which a piece is submitted to the society, appears to consist of two or even three distinct layers of striate or fibrous crystallization; the thickness is pretty equal throughout, about half an inch; its specific gravity is about 3.800. Since the first discovery, many other smaller hollow lumps of a globular or reniform shape have been found, varying from eight to four inches in diameter, but all agreeing in other particulars with the first. On a rough analysis of a specimen, this substance was found to be composed of a large portion of iron—a result since verified by Mr. Gisborne having smelted from about sixteen pounds of it, a bar of iron of about one pound weight, a part of which is also, with one of the balls, laid before this meeting. Upon the whole, this substance seems to approach most nearly to the description given by Professor Jamieson (*Intro.* p. 253) and Mr. Phillips (*Mineral.* p. 173) of the "reniform or kidney-shaped brown clay iron ore, found imbedded in iron clay, presenting irregular balls of reniform lenticular or elliptical forms, which are sometimes hollow; these forms (they add) are composed of lamellar concretions;" and the professor adds, that it is "one of the best kinds of iron-stone, and yields excellent iron." Substances of this kind were known to the ancients under the names of *cetites* and *geodes*, and were supposed to possess very extraordinary virtues.

In another part of the line of the canal, it became necessary to blow up a large rock, of which Mr. Gisborne has transmitted a specimen; this fragment presents a glittering appearance, and as far as it has been examined, contains a large

quantity of carbonate of iron intermixed with quartz, and very compactly associated; the specific gravity is about 3.454; a piece of this is also laid before the society.

Mr. Gisborne has also transmitted some bottles of a mineral water found in the course of digging the canal; it is impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen gas, that which is found in Harrowgate water, four ounces of it, subjected by Dr. Collier to galvanic action, deposited a sediment weighing one grain and a half of pure sulphur, about forty-eight grains to a gallon.—[*Ceylon Gaz.*

THE FLATTENING OF THE EARTH.

At the Academy of Sciences at Paris, a memoir was lately read by Capt. Duperrey, on the experiments made with the invariable pendulum during the voyage of the *Coquille* round the world. He states that various experiments confirmed the fact of the flattening of the terrestrial globe, conjectured by several travellers, who had remarked that the number of oscillations which the pendulum made at certain places differed from what had been observed in the extent of the same parallel. The principal anomalies observed by Capt. Duperrey were at the Isle of France, Mons, Guam, and the Island of Ascension. At the Isle of France the invariable pendulum (as had been remarked by M. Freycinet) made in one day, upon an average, thirteen or fourteen oscillations more than it ought, supposing the depression to be 1.305, according to the lunar theory. At Ascension the acceleration, as noticed by Capt. Sabine, was five or six oscillations, even supposing the depression to be 1.288. At other stations the difference was almost nothing; and in some the motion of the pendulum was retarded. Such differences, Capt. Duperrey remarks, between the results of experiment and those given by theory, cannot be attributed to errors of observation. He is disposed to refer the cause of the phenomena, with Capt. Sabine, to the want of homogeneity in the earth considered as a mass, or to the mere variations of density in the superficial strata. What tends to confirm this hypothesis, he says, is that all observations shew that an acceleration of the pendulum generally takes place on volcanic ground, and a retardation on such as is sandy and argillaceous.

A very important question to ascertain is whether the flattening is exactly the same in both hemispheres. From the observations of Capts. Duperrey and Freycinet, it appears that in the southern hemisphere it is 1.291; and in the northern, 1.288; that is to say, it is sensibly the same, or 1.290, in each.

* This is a term given by Dr. F. Buchanan to a substance (distinct from the mineral so named by Mr. Kirwan) found in Southern India, which is an indurated clay found in large masses, from whence the natives obtain their iron, but which is very commonly used as bricks for building, whence its name. It is soft when in the mass, and becomes hard by exposure to the air. See a full account of the mineral, and process of smelting the ore, in Buchanan's *Journey*, vol. II. c. xii.

THE PALI LANGUAGE.

In the *Calcutta Government Gazette* appears the following notice of a work on the Pali, or sacred language of the Buddhists, which has been lately published at Ceylon:—

The original materials of this work, which comprises a grammar and vocabulary of the language, and a list of roots, were, in great part, the labour of the late Mr. Tolfrey, of Ceylon: upon his death, they came into the possession of the Rev. Mr. Clough, by whom they have been completed and published.

The author of the Pali Grammar has not entered very fully into the history of the language, and that remains to be elicited from the study of its literature; but he has prefixed a few observations that throw some light upon its actual condition. The term *Pali*, as the designation of the language, he derives from *Pela*, a row or range, and is expressive of the regularity of its construction. Mr. Clough, however, agrees with all who have written on the subject, that it is most generally termed Magadhi, from Magadhi, or South Behar, which is uniformly asserted to be its native country.

The grammar of Mr. Clough is printed in the Cingalese character, which it may be conceded is constructed upon the Devanagari. The only character in which Pali is exclusively written, is the square character common in the lacquered and gilded books of the Burmans. This alphabet would appear to have originated amongst the countries to the eastward, as it is not known in Ceylon, although the language and religion of the Buddhas passed, there is little doubt, from India through Ceylon to the eastward. We believe the square Pali is little used in Siam, and seems to be almost confined to Ava.

The author of the grammar confirms the general impression, that whatever may be the variety of character in which it is written, the Pali is every where the same, and that the books in this language are equally intelligible in Ava and Ceylon. He also establishes its identity with Sanscrit, and considers it as a derivative from that language, every essential part of it, he observes, being found in Sanscrit. The vocabularies of its nouns and of its verbal roots are nearly the same. The grammar also is formed on the same model, but is much more simple, and bears the most undoubted marks of being much more modern. The conclusion which he draws is, therefore, that it is not a primitive, but a derived language, and one of the most ancient and perfect scions of the Sanscrit stem. We have no doubt of the accuracy of this conclusion, but it is by no means clear whether the offspring was a natural or artificial product, whether the Pali, Magadhi, or Prakrit (for they

are all the same) was the gradual softening and simplification of the spoken dialects from a more elaborate form of speech, like Italian from Latin; or whether it was the ingenious adaptation of some vernacular peculiarities to the modification of Sanscrit, in order to form a new characteristic language. The Magadhi is not merely a religious language, but is familiar to Brahmanical writers as the dialect of women and servants in their dramas, which looks as if it had been a spoken tongue, when the custom was first introduced: at the same time, the rules are so completely devised for the alteration, that it is easily made at any time, and writers of very modern date write Prakrit as fluently as Sanscrit, which is in favour of its artificial construction. The question is of some importance in the history of both languages; as, if Pali was a vernacular tongue, originating from Sanscrit by the slow progress of insensible change, and serving to pave the way for other forms of speech, by which it has been finally supplanted, a much more considerable period must have intervened since it and its prototype were current in India, than if it had been evolved by ingenious writers from its parent source. There is nothing in its construction unfavourable to its familiar use; and Mr. Clough mentions, that amongst the Baiddha priests it is a common medium of intercourse. The facilities afforded to the study by the publication of this grammar, and the favourable opportunities to be found, both to the eastward and in Ceylon, will, we trust, soon render us acquainted with the peculiarities of the language, and the value of its literature.

STRENGTH OF INDIAN TIMBER.

In the *British Indian Military Repository* of Calcutta, there is a tabular view of the relative strength of the different Indian woods, given from experiments made at the Cossipore gun-carriage manufactory.

The strength of the different woods is nearly as their specific gravities. That which bore the greatest load was the Bengal soundry, seasoned. The specimens of this wood cut of a length (72 inches) so as to allow a space of 60 inches between the supports, bore a weight of 1,384½ lbs. before breaking. The deflexion in the centre before yielding was 4½ inches. The next is the seasoned saul, which ranged from 1,319 to 1,226. The proportions being the same, with an inflexion of from 4½ to 2½ of an inch. Of the seasoned teaks, the Burmese seems to be the highest, the weight carried by it being in similar circumstances 1,040½, with a deflexion at breaking of 3½. The Bombay teak is stated as varying from 889 to 820, with a deflexion of from 3½ to 3 inches:

inches: one kind of it is indeed given as low as 591, with $2\frac{1}{2}$ deflexion. Seasoned Norway pine, tried in like manner, broke under a load of 578, suffering at the same time a deflexion of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. American ash gave 483, with a deflexion of $4\frac{1}{2}$. The experiments appear to have been made with a good deal of care, three specimens of each wood being subjected to trial. The seasoned woods seem to have given a higher result than those which were green. This appears to be rather at variance with some of Buffon's results, in the extensive set of experiments performed by him on oak wood, for the French government. He found green oak to be strongest, and that it invariably lost some of its strength by drying.

SINGULAR PROPERTY OF BISMUTH AND ANTIMONY.

At a meeting of the Société Philomatique of Paris, March 31, M. Becquerel stated the result of some experiments with an instrument invented by M. Lebaillif, for improving the magnetic needle. This instrument consists of two magnetic needles placed at two extremities of a straw suspended from the middle by an untwisted silk thread, the two poles of the needles being placed so as to render the action of the earth nearly *nil*. The smallest quantity of magnetism is by means of this instrument rendered sensible. The use of it has discovered a very singular property in bismuth and antimony; when these two metals approach the poles of the needle, of M. Lebaillif, they exert upon it a very remarkable repulsion, as well upon one pole as upon the other. "It was not," says M. Becquerel, "till after an attentive observation, that I could prevail upon myself to credit such a strange phenomenon." This double repulsive property has never yet been perceived in any other metal.—[*Le Globe*.

VISIT OF SPANIARDS TO OTAHEITE IN 1774.

At the last visit paid by Capt. Cook to Otaheite, or Tahiti, as it is now more properly written, he found that two vessels had been at the island in 1774, which the natives, he said, told him came from *Reema*; that they left four persons behind them, one of whom was named *Mateema*; that they afterwards returned and took away the people they had left; that the commodore of the two ships, whose name the natives called *Oreede*, died and was buried at the island, &c. The few particulars our celebrated navigator could glean from the natives, and the discovery of a wooden cross, on which was cut "*Christus vincit*," and "*Carolus imperat*, 1774," led him to conclude that the visitors were Spaniards, and that the vessels

came from Lima in South America. He, however, expresses some curiosity about the fact, and respecting the design of the Spaniards who remained behind.

The Editor of the *Calcutta Government Gazette* of October 26 gives an account of a manuscript journal recently inspected by him, of a Spaniard of Lima, named Maximo Rodriguez, which contains the particulars of this identical voyage. It appears that the writer of the journal, the Mateema of the Tahitians, was an officer who, having picked up some acquaintance with the language of Tahiti, accompanied, as interpreter, a mission from Callao, to this and other islands in the South Sea, the object of which was to convert the natives to Christianity, by the aid of some natives of the Society Islands, who had been converted at Lima. Two friars formed part of the mission, which sailed from Callao on the 20 Sept. 1774, in the frigate *Aquila* and the schooner *Jupiter*, and arrived at Tahiti on the 15 November. With the concurrence of the chiefs named Bijiatua and Otu (the Waheindoo and Otoo of Cook) the Spaniards built a house at Ojatutim (Oheitepeha), and the cross discovered by Cook was elevated before it. The commander of the frigate, who died, was named Don Domingo Bonachia, not very like *Oreede*. The vessels sailed from the island January 28, leaving the two missionaries, Padres Geronimo and Narcisso, and Maximo Rodriguez, with an attendant. The missionaries made little effort to convert the natives to Christianity, and had still less success. Rodriguez accuses them of want of humanity and kindness. They seem, indeed, very soon to have grown heartily sick of their situation, and to have become morose and ill-tempered. The journal of Maximo shews that he incurred their frequent displeasure, in consequence of which, probably, he seems to have been of little use as an interpreter, spending his time mostly with the natives, and wandering about from one part of the island to another. He was, he says, but twenty years of age, and his youth and vivacity, and his knowledge of their language, made him, as Cook observes, exceedingly popular. He does not seem to have been a man of any science; and, although an intelligent, not a very profound observer.

On the return of the vessels, to ascertain the condition and progress of the mission, the fathers wished to withdraw, and accordingly left the island and returned to Callao, February 18, 1776.

The journal of Rodriguez, from whence this account is taken, has never been printed, but remained in the possession of his family, and a copy was procured by Capt. Dillon, who has been already mentioned, from his widow at Valparaiso.

ASIATIC INTELLIGENCE.

Calcutta.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL
ORDERS.

OFF-RECKONING FUND.

Fort William, Sept. 29, 1826. — The Right Hon. the Vice-President in council is pleased to direct, that the following extract of a general letter from the Hon. the Court of Directors in the Military Department, under date the 19th April 1826, be published in General Orders.

Par. 10. "We concur with you in opinion that a participation in the Off-Reckoning Fund should not be continued to officers in command of irregular corps. The exceptions proposed by you to this rule we think reasonable and judicious.

11. "We therefore direct, that regimental lieutenant-colonels, who shall be compelled by ill-health to become invalided, and shall be appointed to the command of invalid or provincial battalions, be allowed to receive the full surplus off-reckonings of their respective corps, and that regimental majors compelled to become invalided under similar circumstances, shall, if appointed to the command of invalid or provincial battalions, be allowed to receive a share of surplus off-reckonings proportioned to the established strength of their respective corps, not exceeding in any case 4,000 rupees per annum.

12. "The clothing agents who shall be appointed to the charge of such office, subsequently to the receipt of the present order, shall, in lieu of all other emoluments, receive from the Off-Reckoning Fund a share equal to that received by officers succeeding to the command of regiments after 1st May 1826, but such officers as stand appointed to the situation of clothing agent are to continue in receipt of a full share so long as they hold their appointments.

13. "With these exceptions, no officer who shall be appointed to the command of an irregular corps subsequently to the receipt of this despatch, shall be allowed to share in the surplus off-reckonings."

Invalid lieutenant-colonels entitled to off-reckonings, shall receive, agreeably to the foregoing resolutions of the Hon. the Court of Directors, the full surplus off-reckonings of their respective corps from the 1st proximo.

REDUCTIONS IN THE ARTILLERY.

Fort William, Nov. 4, 1826. — The Right Hon. the Vice-President in council is pleased to direct, that on the return to Fort William of the artillery now employed at Penang and its dependencies, the 6th or Golundaz battalion of artillery shall be reduced to sixteen companies.

Nov. 4. — The three separate companies of gun-lascars, formed by the Commander-in-chief under authority of G. O. of the 17th June 1824, to meet urgent, though temporary, demands of the service, consequent to the then deficiency in the numerical strength of the European artillery, being no longer required, the Right Hon. the Vice-President in council is pleased to order that they be immediately reduced, and incorporated with the gun-lascar details attached to troops and companies.

OFFICERS' WIDOWS.

Fort William, Nov. 17, 1826. — The Vice President in Council is pleased to notify, under instructions from the Hon. the Court of Directors, in a general letter, dated 24th May 1826, that in future no widows of military or medical officers of their army, left destitute by the death of their husbands, will be allowed passage money to England; the Orphan Fund entitling children of officers who may die in distressed circumstances to an allowance as passage-money to England, and subscription to the Military Fund, affording sufficient means for the return of widows.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Judicial Department.

Nov. 9. Mr. J. Shaw, register of Dinapore and joint magistrate stationed at Maldah.

Mr. A. Heyland, assistant to magistrate and to collector of Beerbhoom.

Mr. H. Armstrong, ditto ditto of Sarun.

Mr. G. F. Thompson, ditto ditto of Bareilly.

Territorial Department.

Nov. 9. Mr. H. Swetenham, to be collector of Shahjehanpore.

Mr. J. Dunsmure, ditto of Suheswan.

Mr. J. T. Reade, ditto of Seharunpore.

Mr. H. Fraser, to be principal assistant in northern division of Delhee territory.

Mr. H. S. Boulderson, to be secretary to Board of Revenue in Western Provinces.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Nov. 3. Rev. H. S. Fisher, joint district chaplain at Meerut.

Rev. W. Fraser, district chaplain at Bareilly.

Rev. J. Irwing, ditto at Futtehgurh.

Rev. H. Pariah, ditto at Agra.

Rev. T. Proctor, chaplain to garrison of Fort William.

Rev. J. J. Tucker, chaplain at station of Patna.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS,
PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort William, Oct. 30, 1826. — Cadets admitted.
Mr. C. E. Mills to artillery, and prom. to 2d-lieut.
4 R — Messrs.

—Messrs. W. Master, G. R. Budd, T. F. B. Beaton, Jas. Gordon, J. D. Macnaghten, and G. Scott, to cavalry, and prom. to cornets.—Messrs. C. Steele, G. Durant, H. Apperley, L. C. Fagan, H. S. Grimes, G. M. Hill, J. C. Scott, W. Cox, J. S. Aston, T. W. Morgan, T. Biddulph, W. H. Lomer, C. D. Bailey, T. T. Wheeler, J. H. W. Mayow, F. J. Mackay, P. Gordon, N. G. Mein, W. C. Hollings, Hon. J. O. Murray, J. R. B. Andrews, and G. Holloway, to infantry, and prom. to ensigns.

Assist. surgs. admitted. Messrs. W. Dollard, A. C. Gordon, I. Davidson, J. V. Leese, H. Roe, W. Warlow, Jas. Goss, Jas. Canie, and C. T. Woodhouse.

Lieut. T. Prinsep, corps of engineers, to be superintendent of canals, with a salary of 1,000 rupees per mensem, exclusive of his military pay.

Nor. 2.—Lieut. R. B. Brittridge, 13th N.I., to have rank of capt. by brevet.

Head-Quarters, Oct. 26, 1826.—Ens. J. C. Cooper removed from 3d to 4th N.I.

Oct. 27.—Ens. Nugent, of 30th N.I. and Ens. Laurance, of 66th do., permitted to exch. corps.

Oct. 28.—Lieut. Wansley, 6th extra regt., to officiate as aid-de-camp to Maj. Gen. Dick.

Assist. surg. C. Finch, app. to 13th N.I. in Assam.

Oct. 30.—Postings and Removals. Lieut. Col. Com. A. Richards (new prom.) posted to 51st N.I.; Lieut. Col. Blackney removed from 35th to 5th do.; Lieut. Col. F. A. Weston, removed from 5th to 25th do.; Lieut. Col. Jas. Tod (new prom.) posted to 51st do.; Lieut. Col. John Smith (new prom.) posted to 19th do.; Lieut. Col. Huthwaite removed from 19th to 34th do.; Lieut. Col. Com. Sir Thos. Ramsay removed from 28th to 16th do.; Lieut. Col. Com. T. D. Broughton removed from 16th to 28th do.

Oct. 31.—Offic. Asst. surg. Barber to have charge of Station Hospital at Barrackpore.

Fort William, Nov. 4.—3d Lt. Cornet G. A. Brownlow to be lieut. from 14th Oct., v. Diddin dec.

4th N.I. Ens. Jas. Peers to be lieut., from 14th Oct., v. Willie dec.

22d Extra N.I. Br. Capt. and Lieut. N. Stewart to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. T. G. Dundas to be lieut., from 19th Oct., v. Bradley dec.

Cadets admitted. Messrs. G. C. Crispin and W. B. Wemyss to cav., and prom. to cornets.—Messrs. R. St. J. Lucas, W. Blackwood, T. M. Bremer, Wm. Lindsay, and W. H. Massie, to infantry, and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. H. P. Hall as asst. surg.

Infantry. Lieut. Col. S. Nation to be lieut. col. com., v. Hallane dec.

Maj. J. Ward to be lieut. col., v. Nation prom., and Maj. E. Wyatt to be lieut. col., v. J. C. Grant dec.

16th N.I. Capt. W. Bertram to be major; Lieut. I. N. Hull to be capt. of a comp.; and Ens. G. F. Tytler to be lieut., v. Wyatt prom.

21st N.I. Capt. E. R. Broughton to be maj.; Brev. Capt. and Lieut. N. Campbell to be capt. of a company; and Ens. J. Nunn to be lieut., v. Ward prom.

39th N.I. Lieut. H. Monke to be capt. of a company; and Ens. E. A. Monro to be lieut., from 30th Oct. 1825, in suc. to Orr dec.

40th N.I. Ens. H. H. Hill to be lieut. from 27th March 1826, v. Symes dec.

N.B.—By the death of Major Gen. Haldane, Lieut. Colonels Com. J. M. Johnson and C. Baldock become entitled to benefits of Off-Reckoning Fund.

Cadet R. S. Tickell admitted to infantry, and prom. to ensign.

Nor. 10. Artillery. 2d-Lieut. J. Fordyce to be 1st-lieut., from 20th Sept. 1826, v. Wakefield dec.

66th N.I. Ens. J. Sutherland to be lieut., from 19th Oct. 1826, v. Nelson dec.

2d Extra N.I. Ens. D. T. Caddy to be lieut., from 4th June 1826, v. Home dec.

Assist. surg. H. Roe, to perform medical duties of civil station of Mymensing.

Capt. J. Davies, 3d Extra N.I., to be fort adj. of Fort William, v. Broughton prom.

Cadet Wm. Lydiard admitted to inf., and prom. to ensign.

Capt. R. Tickell, of engineers, to perform duties of superintending engineer in Department of Public Works, South-West Provinces, v. Paton proceeding to Europe.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 4.—Lieut. E. S. Hawkins, 35th N.I., to be a member of Arsenal Committee in Fort William, v. Craigie app. to a staff situation.

Removals of Lieut. Col. Swettenham from 8th to 9th L.C. Hawtreay from 9th to 8th do. Dickson from 7th to 10th do. Thomson from 10th to 7th do. W. H. Wood from 38th to 68th N.I. J. L. Stuart, from 63th to 67th do. Garriham from 67th to 34th do.

Nor. 6.—*Assist. surgs.* appointed to do duty. A. Macleod with 2d, and W. Dollard with 5th bat. artil. at Dum Dum; A. C. Gordon with H.M.'s 47th regt.

Nor. 7.—Lieut. Faithfull, 43d N.I., directed to return to pioneer corps.

Lieut. Arabian, 7th N.I., app. to pioneers, and ordered to join 7th or 11th Company.

Nor. 9.—Lieut. A. Grant, of 1st Europ. Regt., and Lieut. F. G. Nicolay, of 36th N.I., permitted to exch. corps.

Cornets posted to Regts. Jas. Gordon to 3d L.C., proceeding to Keltah; G. C. Crispin, 2d do., proceeding to Muttra; W. B. Wemyss, 9th do., at Cawnpore.

Ensigns posted to Regts. John Anderson to 44th N.I., at Dacca. T. Wallace, 3d do., Lucknow. H. D. Maitland, 4th Extra do., Allahabad. G. F. Whitelocke, 13th N.I., Assam. (I. W. Williams, 40th do., Dinapore. R. E. T. Richardson, 62d do., Benares. T. Biddulph, 45th do., Baitool. R. Evans, 21st do., Bhurtpore. J. K. Spence, 28th do., Barrackpore. R. S. Tickell, 4th Extra do., Allahabad. T. T. Wheeler, 56th N.I., Nusseerabad. J. French, 57th do., Pertaubgurih (Oude). W. H. Massie, 30th do., proceeding to Guarawarra. Jas. R. B. Andrews, 13th do., Bhurtpore. H. N. J. O. Murray, 4th do., Dacca. G. Holloway, 69th do., Barrackpore. W. C. Hollings, 53d do., Bareilly. R. St. J. Lucas, 9th do., Secroon. T. W. Morgan, 14th do., Lucknow.

Cornets appointed to do duty. W. Master with 1st L.C., Sultanpore (Benares). G. R. Budd, 9th do., Cawnpore. T. F. B. Beaton, 1st do., Sultanpore (Benares). J. D. Macnaghten, 9th do., Cawnpore. G. Scott, 1st do., Sultanpore (Benares).

Ensigns appointed to do duty. C. Steele with 40th N.I., Dinapore. G. Durant, 46th do., Dinapore. H. Apperley, 28th do., Barrackpore. L. C. Fagan, 7th do., Barrackpore. H. S. Grimes, 32d do., Keitah. G. M. Hill, 2d Extra do., Futteghur. J. C. Scott, 20th N.I., Barrackpore. W. Cox, 60th do., Meerut. J. S. Aston, 40th do., Dinapore. W. H. Lomer, 67th do., proceeding to Dinapore. C. D. Bailey, 23th do., Barrackpore. J. H. W. Mayow, 14th do., Lucknow. F. J. Mackay, 42d do., Cawnpore. W. Blackwood, 50th do., Allahabad.

Nor. 11.—*Assist. surg.* And. Walker to have med. charge of 1st troop 1st horse brig. of artil.

Fort William, Nov. 10.—Lieut. F. Abbot, corps of engineers, to assist Lieut. Warlow in executive duties of 7th or Cawnpore div. of departm. of Public Works.

Nor. 17.—11th N.I. Ens. A. Mackenzie to be lieut. from 9th Nov., v. Fleming dec.

Capt. J. J. Hamilton, 23d N.I., to be an asst. adj. gen., from 9th Nov., v. Aplin proceeded to Europe.

Assist. surg. R. Loughton to perform medical duties of civil station of Futtehpore.

Lieut. S. Mallock, corps of engineers, to be surveyor to Sunderbund commissioner, in room of Lieut. T. Prinsep.

Capt. P. Jernie, inv. estab., to be an asst. to opium agent in Behar, with a salary of 500 rupees per mensem, in addition to his military pay and allowances.

I. lieut.

Lieut. W. Brown, 1st Extra N.I., to be revenue surveyor at Seharunpore.

Lieut. A. Hodges, 29th N.I., to be an assist. revenue surveyor at Seharunpore.

Lieut. G. J. Fraser, 1st L.C., to be an assist. revenue surveyor at Seharunpore.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 11.—Brigadier Sleight to inspect whole of cavalry regts. on this estab. during present season.

Nov. 13.—*Assist. surgs. appointed to do duty.* I. Davidson, with H.M.'s 47th regt.; Furnell, with 44th N.I.; Grahame, at General Hospital; C. T. Woodhouse, with H.M.'s 47th regt.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Oct. 30. Lieut. Col. W. C. Baddeley, 16th N.I., on private affairs.—Nov. 4. Lieut. Col. Com. P. Byres, 28th N.I., for health.—10. Lieut. H. Hunter, 58th N.I., for health.—*Assist. surg.* W. Glass, for health.—2d-Lieut. G. T. Graham, regt. of artill., for one year, on private affairs.—17. Capt. J. E. Watson, 59th N.I., for health.

To Ceylon.—Nov. 2. Ens. D. F. Evans, 16th N.I., for six months, on private affairs.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

To Europe.—Oct. 30. Capt. Stones, 13th L.Dr., for health.—Brev. Capt. Mackenzie, Royal Regt., for health.—Nov. 6. Veter. Surg. Percival, 11th L.Dr., for health.—Lieut. Col. Smet, 41st F., on private affairs.—10. Brev. Majors Rogers and Thompson, 6th F., for purpose of retiring on half-pay.—Lieut. Holyoake, 6th F., for health.

Cancelled.—Nov. 10. Maj. Smith, 11th L.Dr., to Europe.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT.

The charge delivered by the Chief Justice to the Grand Jury, at the opening of the court, October 26, was greatly misrepresented in the *Bengal Hurkaru* * (as we stated) from whence we were obliged to take our report. The Chief Justice thought it necessary to advert in strong terms to the grossness of the misrepresentation, on a subsequent day. As the subjects referred to in the charge are important, we subjoin an accurate report of what fell from the Judge, respecting the Act 7 Geo. iv. c. 37, from the *Government Gazette*, which, it is declared, may be depended upon.

"I do not think I ought to omit to mention to you, that I received last night the Act of Parliament, which has recently made a material alteration as to the juries of the court. It is very short, and provides only that, whereas, hitherto British subjects only have sat on juries, hereafter, under regulations to be made by the court, all good and sufficient persons resident in Calcutta, and not being the subjects of any foreign state, shall be qualified and liable to serve on juries: with two exceptions, namely, that Grand Juries must be composed entirely of persons professing the Christian religion, and so must all

Petit Juries for the trial of Christian persons. Two purposes seem to be attained by the act:—First, it removes, as to the natives in Calcutta, a part of that distinction which has prevailed between British and Indian subjects, and is a declaration that the latter, though they have not been included under the term "British subjects," as it is used in the statutes relating to India, yet are no less the subjects of the British crown than persons born in the United Kingdom. Vague ideas have prevailed both here and at home on this point, but no judge who has acted under the letters-patent, by which this court was constituted, can ever have entertained any doubt, as to persons born within the territories possessed by the Hon. Company in Bengal, Behar, and Orissa. They are unquestionably as much subjects of the King as if they were born in Windsor Park. It is another effect of this act, that it marks the willingness of the imperial Legislature to impart to the Indian subjects such British institutions as they are qualified and prepared to use beneficially. This is neither the time nor place for expressing any opinion, whether it would be now, or ever will be, desirable or practicable to introduce juries beyond the limits of the seats of government, nor do I possess such a knowledge of the interior of India as would authorize me to speak with any positiveness upon the question. But I must observe, that in imparting this privilege to the Indian subjects within Calcutta (or imposing this duty on them, if it ought so to be termed), the Legislature has not been in any hurry. As far back as 1783, forty-three years ago, in a Report of a Committee of the House of Commons, which I believe was drawn up by Mr. Burke, it is said, that 'your committee, on full inquiry, are of opinion that the use of juries is neither impracticable nor dangerous in Bengal.'

"Upon the value of the institution of trial by jury it cannot be necessary that I should say any thing to you, who are English gentlemen. The advantage to a people, that questions of fact affecting property and life should be decided by persons drawn from their own class of society, and conversant with such facts as they are called upon to consider, instead of the matter being left entirely to officers appointed by the government, must be obvious to every reasonable being. It is also obvious that trial by jury, though fitted also for the most refined states of society, has subsisted amongst the most rude. It was in vigour amongst our Saxon ancestors, and is still in its prime amongst ourselves. With a difference of form only, it was a favourite mode of trial under the Hindoo law, and is recommended for adoption, in the present state

* The numerous mistakes and mis-statements in this paper, from which we are sometimes constrained to take our information, are very embarrassing to us.

of India, by some of the ablest of those who conduct its government. I need only refer to the published opinions of Mr. Elphinstone, the present governor of Bombay. These considerations, I hope, will have their effect in recommending the institution to the Hindoo and Mahomedan residents of Calcutta; but they need not have any apprehensions of being prematurely forced into an adoption of it. There are many difficulties which stand in the way of our admitting even those who are willing. The first is, their imperfect knowledge of the English language. Many of the proceedings of the court are not interpreted in the usual course of the trials: some of them could not be interpreted. The observations of the judges, perhaps, fall under the first head: the speeches of counsel, under the second. The importance of these last would be much increased, if we should ever have the assistance of juries in civil cases; and as to the first, I would ask you to consider, as an illustration, the difficulty which there would be in explaining in English to a Hindoo or Mahomedan, the nice distinctions upon which it may depend whether an act be murder or manslaughter. There are other difficulties arising from prejudices, which we are bound to respect as far as we can: a Hindoo juror of caste, would feel religious scruples in taking any kind of food, or even a glass of water, in the court-house, though he were fainting. A further difficulty arises from the character of the oath which is usually administered here. We have for some time been employed in inquiries on this subject, and we are still carrying them on, but there are some doubts remaining. Our object is to learn what form of oath would be considered, by a Hindoo of sound sense and of an honest mind, to be most binding on his conscience; and we shall endeavour to make such provisions as will not exclude from serving on juries any Hindoo whose scruples have a foundation.

"Gentlemen, I have thus stated to you some of the purposes of the statute, some of the benefits of which it affords a hope, and some of the difficulties by which its introduction is opposed, and I trust that, in any conversation you may have with intelligent natives, you will assist them in coming to an understanding of the institution which is offered to them, and of the advantages which they may derive from it; in this way you have the means of doing much good, and whatever private opinions any of us may entertain, I need hardly say, that as the Legislature has made the enactment, it is the duty of us all to give it effect.

"The task is left to the court of preparing rules for that purpose. We shall direct our attention to this object without

delay, and probably shall take for our model, as far as it is applicable to this country, the act which was framed by Mr. Peel in 1825, for the consolidation of the jury laws at home; but until these rules are completed, we shall be glad to receive any suggestions from those who are qualified to give them, and especially from the gentlemen of whom the grand juries of the court are composed."

November 17.

The King, on the pros. of Ramtunoo Mundul, Rhobanud Jail, Anund Jail and Choitunchurn Paul, v. Radamohun Ghose.

This was an indictment for perjury, committed in order to bring a fictitious action against the prosecutors, charging them with a debt of 2,061 rupees for indigo alleged to have been sold and delivered. The particulars of the case may be found in our present volume, p. 265.

The prisoner, in his defence, said that Ramgovind Mundul was his master, and he indorsed an account over to him, and he brought the action: he could not tell himself whether the debt was just or not.

Sir John Franks summed up the evidence, and the Jury, without retiring, returned a verdict of *Guilty*.

November 18.

Sentence was this day passed on the criminals convicted at the sessions.

Wm. E. Hall (see p. 524) was sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

Radamohun Ghose was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, and a fine of 2,000 rupees. The Chief Justice, in passing sentence, observed, "We are not anxious to introduce any novel punishment, but if such an act is repeated, we shall have recourse to what is used in England—a public exposure."

In the case of Robert D'Rozario, convicted of forgery, the Advocate-general moved for a new trial, on the grounds that the prisoner had not had sufficient time, but was suddenly brought to trial; and that one or two witnesses were absent at the time, who would probably be in Calcutta by next term.

The court read the affidavits; and (next day) the Chief Justice stated, that he did not see any satisfactory reason to comply with the request, and sentenced the prisoner to be transported to Prince of Wales' Island for the term of seven years.

The court complained of the inconvenience arising from the non-attendance of petit jurors, and fined some of the absentees 100 rupees, and others 50.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

In our last report we left Lord Amherst and

and his suite at Benares. They left that city on the 17th October, and anchored a little above Chunar on the 18th. The fleet arrived at Allahabad on the 26th, and on the following day the Governor-General, Lord Amherst, &c. took possession of General Marley's quarters; they were in good health. On the morning of the 28th his Lordship inspected the fort, and held a levee; and her Ladyship held a drawing-room in the evening. The native chiefs flocked in every direction, with immense trains of followers, in order to attend the *darbar*.

On the 2d of November the Governor-General gave audience in his tents to his Highness Binayak Rao, and to Nawab Zulfiqar Ali Khan, of Banda, who came from their respective places of residence in Bundelkhund to wait upon his Lordship. A deputation was also received from his Majesty the King of Oude. His Highness Binayak Rao was saluted with seventeen guns on his arrival and departure, and honorary dresses were conferred upon the officers of the king of Oude. Several zemindars and respectable inhabitants of Allahabad were then introduced to the Governor-General. On the 3d, his Lordship returned the visit of Binayak Rao. The party marched from Allahabad on the morning of the 6th, and reached Kurrah on the 8th, after a pleasant journey.

The Governor-General reached Futteh-pore on the 11th. On the following day his Lordship held a *darbar* in his tents, and received four chiefs of Bundelkhund, the Raja of Oorcha, the Soubadar of Jansi, the hereditary ruler of Jalown, and the Raja of Churkeeree. Presents and *khelats* were distributed, and these semi-barbarous chieftains, who had never before crossed the Jumna, departed well pleased.

The Governor-General and suite entered the lines of Cawnpore on the 16th November, and were received by General Shuldham and the troops of the station, who were drawn out on parade to salute his Lordship.

The Governor-General held a levee on the forenoon of the 17th; and Lady Amherst a drawing-room on the evening of the 18th.

On the morning of the 19th a royal salute announced the arrival of the King of Oude, with the principal part of his court, on the usual encamping ground opposite to Cawnpore, to pay the Governor-General the established compliment of *istakbal*, on his Lordship's first arrival in the Western Provinces. A deputation from the Governor-General waited on his Majesty with a complimentary message, and an invitation to breakfast the following morning.

The King crossed the Ganges on the morning of the 20th, upon a fine temporary bridge of boats, conducted by a

deputation from his Lordship's family. The whole of the troops were drawn out on parade. Lord Amherst advanced on his elephant, with his suite and body guard, to meet the King; and on the elephant's approach, his Majesty was lifted on a Tukht Rowan, from his own splendid howrah, into the Governor-General's, and the party returned to the state tents. The breakfast-table was spread for about eighty persons. After the repast, presents were distributed amongst his Majesty's court; and his Lordship, with his own hands, placed a costly diamond ring on the King's finger. A superb *khelat* was conferred upon the minister of Oude, Nawab Mutamed-ud-Dowlah. After *utr* and *paun*, the King took leave, highly gratified with the attentions paid him, and returned to his camp on the opposite bank of the Ganges.

The next morning his Lordship returned the visit, accompanied by Lady Amherst, the ladies of the family, with the staff and suite, on fifty elephants, escorted by the 18th Light Dragoons and the body guard. The King met the Governor-General at the end of the bridge, when his Lordship stepped into his Majesty's howrah. Nothing could surpass the splendour of the scene, which equalled the highest expectations of those who witnessed for the first time the magnificent pageantry of an eastern court.

The Governor-General was first conducted into a large tent of red cloth, where three chairs were placed, one in the centre for the Governor-General, one on the right for the King, and one on the left for Lady Amherst; seats were also prepared for the suite. On a signal, the *purdahs* on the side fronting his Lordship were drawn up suddenly, and discovered a long and spacious saloon, where breakfast was prepared for about a hundred persons. On taking leave, trays of presents were brought in, and the King girded a valuable sword round his Lordship's waist.

On the 22d the Governor-General held a *darbar*, at which several Bundelkhund chiefs were introduced (*viz.* the Rajas of Duttan, Sumpther, Punna, Ajyghur, and Bijawer), and other native gentlemen.

The Governor-General marched from Cawnpore on the 24th, and proceeded to Lucknow, which he was expected to enter on the 28th, and where he proposes to stay a week.

DR. ABEL.

Dr. Clarke Abel, physician to the Governor-General, died on the 24th November, at Cawnpore, in attendance upon his Lordship. The immediate cause of his death was a fever. His constitution was naturally more feeble than robust, and he had been ill for some time. He was a zealous

zealous and ardent cultivator of natural science; and in experimental research his industry and application were great. In private society (says the writer from whom we take this notice) few have been more conspicuous for the display of those social qualities, which serve to render agreeable the course of this world's pilgrimage.

JEYPORE.

Extract of a Letter, dated Oct. 20.—“The only news that I can at present give you in regard to this principality is, that the durbar is thronged by the principal chiefs of the state, who are assembled to give their opinion on the ancient usages of this Raj. The young Raja, who till now had been confined in the zunana, is to make his appearance in public, for the purpose of ascending the guddee or musnud. Sir Charles Metcalfe, who superintends the Rujpootana agencies, will arrive here in about three days, and it is expected that a total change in the administration of the state will take place. The reins of the government, up to the present time, were held by the Rancee (mother of the young Raja); and it is not yet settled whether, after the young Raja's release from the trammels of the zunana, the Rancee is still to govern the state, or that a more appropriate regent will be appointed for the purpose.”—*Beng. Chron.* Nov. 24.

THE PRESS.

The following announcement appears in the *Bengal Chronicle* of the 12th Dec.

“The readers of the *Bengal Chronicle* were informed in our last publication that this paper had fallen under the displeasure of Government, but that a representation had been made by the proprietor, with a view to avert the threatened punishment—deprivation of the license. It affords us pleasure to add, that this appeal to the Vice-president in council has been effectual, and that his Lordship has been pleased to permit the continuance of the paper under a new editor.”

The cause of complaint against the *Chronicle* was the tenor of some indecorous comments, published in that paper, on the subject of a letter addressed by the Supreme Government to the Court of Directors, under date the 23d Dec. 1825, respecting a plan for enabling civil servants to pay off their debts, and which were considered to be in direct violation of the press regulations.

THE COLLEGE.

It is rumoured that the college here either has been or will be immediately done away with; and that the writers' buildings will be converted into public offices. The writers henceforth are not to be appointed till the age of seventeen; and

on their arrival in this country will immediately be ordered to proceed to a station and commence the duties of the service.—*Beng. Chron.* Nov. 4.

JUDICIAL OATHS AMONGST THE HINDUS.

Much discussion is going forward at Calcutta, respecting a dispensation of the form of swearing by the Gungahjul, or Ganges water, so terrible to a Hindu, and the substitution of some less objectionable, but equally binding form. The Editor of the *Calcutta John Bull* asserted that Hindus might be safely sworn by the Butchuns of Mittachora; and he recommended witnesses at Calcutta and in the Mofussil being subjected to the same form of oath; but subsequently the same writer made the following recantation:

“Since we endeavoured to direct public attention to the present system of swearing witnesses and parties in the Supreme Court, we have had opportunities of ascertaining the opinion of a number of native merchants in this city on the subject; and one and all of them agree that there is no oath by which an ordinary Hindu can be bound except the Gungahjul. They also agreed in saying that unless sworn by it, that a native would more probably tell untruths than truths. When we mentioned that to swear any Hindu by repeating to him the Butchuns of Mittachora, would be an oath binding on his conscience, we supposed the fact to be so from the nature of the evidence we had before us—the opinion of natives learned in the laws. The opinion, however, we find, of the native merchants and men of business is very different. They say you may swear a Hindu by repeating to him the Butchuns, but he must have his hand at the same time in the Gungahjul, otherwise the Hindu would not consider himself under an oath, and they would not believe him. In short, the practical men are in this, as on many other questions, directly opposed to the learned men, or the theorists. We acknowledge that the information we have received in answer to our inquiries on this subject has materially altered our opinion. We now doubt very much the propriety of abolishing the oath by the Gungahjul; and are consequently compelled to retract that part of our observations, which recommended the adoption of one uniform oath, applicable to all classes of Hindus. Of course, as long as the oath by the Gungahjul is permitted, the oath cannot be made applicable to all classes.”

STEAM NAVIGATION.

Steam boats have now started on the Hooghly, which convey passengers up the river at eight rupees a head. The *Comet* runs regularly between Calcutta and Chinsurah; the *Firefly* also starts one day and returns

returns the next. The *Emulous** is expected to ply in a similar manner. The *India Gazette* contains a project for surveying the Indus from its mouth to its source, in steam gun-vessels. A discovery has been made of a stratum of coal, in digging a well at Jubbulpore, which is not likely to be confined to an isolated spot. A reward to Capt. Johnston, out of the fund subscribed at Calcutta for the encouragement of steam-vessels, is talked of.

NATIVE PAPERS.

Kabul.—In consequence of the continued hostilities between Azim Allah Khan and Purdil Khan, the chief of the Afghans having thought it necessary to interfere, their interference has proved successful. They reminded the contending parties, that they were two out of fourteen brothers, of whom Yar Mohammed Khan was at Peshawer, and Yar Mohammed at Kabul, and five or six others in different places, whilst the legitimate prince, Sultan Shooja, had been obliged to take refuge at Ludhiana, and they represented that it was much wiser for them to be reconciled, and to unite their strength against any foreign enemy. The princes were moved by these counsels to lay aside their animosity, and have sworn a reconciliation on the koran; an interview was to take place between them after the Mohurrem.—[*Jami Jehan Numa*.

Maharaja Runjit Singh.—On the 30th of September his Highness visited the temple of the Akalis, where he distributed 500 rupees in sweetmeats, and declared, that he was about to undertake an expedition, from which, if he returned victorious, he would present an offering of 5,000 rupees. On the 1st October Kharg Singh was ordered to hold his troops in readiness to march.—[*Ibid*.

A Brahman of Kumarhatta, Kisora Nyaya Vayisa, aged eighty, having died, his wife, seventy-seven years of age, determined to burn herself with him. After a delay of two days, during which the chief men of the village, of the caste of the deceased, to whom he had acted as family priest, repaired to the judge of the district, and permission was obtained. When on the point of mounting the pile, two officers landed, and endeavoured to dissuade the widow from her purpose, but in vain, and with a smiling countenance she ascended the pile to proceed to heaven. After a few moments, observing the pile agitated, four Brahmans placed two bambus across it, which incensed the officers exceedingly,

and they began to beat the assistants with their canes. The family of the deceased intreated them to desist, but to no purpose, and at last, the patience of the bystanders being exhausted, they fell upon the officers with sticks, and compelled them to make a precipitate retreat to their boats. [*Sa-machar Chandrika*.

THE DURGA PUJA.

As far as we can judge, the Durga Puja continues to be celebrated with undiminished pageantry and expenditure, notwithstanding the diffusion of liberal ideas, amongst those especially of the more opulent classes, by whom it is observed. It is, however, a very heterogeneous sort of business, and the performances of Mohammedan singers and dancers, with the appendages of cold beef and beer for the grosser entertainment of European guests, are little compatible with the adoration of Devi. We confess we do not think the sort of association that takes place at this season, creditable to any of the parties. We have no objection to the contemplation of the religious rites of the Hindus, for the gratification of liberal curiosity, nor to a participation in their amusements, either if they yield real entertainment, or courtesy giving them accessory zest; but the vague and undefined mobbing of the Durga Puja can yield, we should fancy, neither information nor diversion, and the noise and confusion that prevail allow those who are involved in them to hear and see but little, and to understand still less. In the case of the refreshments, the natives have certainly found out our weak side, although we imagine they are not likely to respect us the more from contemplating what must be, in their estimation, the indecorous indulgence of voracious appetite. As to our native friends themselves, they are much mistaken if they think they gain any respectability by throwing their doors open to a promiscuous mob, and by lavishing their money for the entertainment of those, who either repay their politeness with contemptuous indifference, or who sometimes acknowledge their hospitality by making their mansions the scene of vulgar riot. They had much better dispense with European society, until they can offer it something more worthy of acceptance than profusion and antics; and Europeans had better decline that of the native community, until both parties have something mutually instructive or interesting. There need be no great delay, for many of the native gentlemen who lend themselves to the public celebration of the Durga Puja, are far from being deficient, either in the intelligence, or information, or command of the English language, requisite to a free and friendly intercourse with their guests at a more propitious season, and under

* This beautiful vessel, which left Falmouth 13th May, reached Calcutta September 15th. She did not use steam at all during the passage, which she performed in eighteen weeks. She is a three-masted schooner; her burthen 250 tons; the power of her engines 100 horse.

under more favourable circumstances.—
[Gov. Gaz., Oct. 12.]

[We observe an account from a native newspaper of a Durga festival celebrated at Chinsurah, which furnishes a lamentable proof of the besotted folly of the respectable natives even in the vicinity of Calcutta.—Ed.]

IMPROVEMENT OF CALCUTTA.

An English architect (Mr. Ives) has suggested various new buildings in Calcutta; among other plans, he has purposed an establishment similar to the Albany in London, for which a subscription to the amount of 30,000 rupees has already been raised amongst individuals and the principal houses of agency.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.

On the 1st October, a party consisting of Mr. A. Pereira, his wife and infant child, Mr. and Mrs. Burn, Mrs. Chick and her son, with Mr. Chamier and an Ayah, proceeding to Barrackpore, entered a ferry boat to cross the river, at about ten at night; the boat got athwart the cable of a vessel in the middle of the stream, near Howrah, was upset, and sank. Mr. Chamier saved himself by clinging to a bar on one side the pansway (ferry boat), till he was rescued; Master Chick jumped into a boat just before the accident happened; the Ayah was also saved. The others perished. Mr. Burn was carried down by the violence of the current, crying for assistance.

HINDU CEREMONY.

The native part of the town was brilliantly illuminated on Monday evening, on the occasion of the new moon of Cartik, when lamps are lighted in honour of departed ancestors. The ceremony extends indeed throughout the month, lamps being presented every day by the followers of Vishnu, to Vishnu and Lakshmi, and by those of Siva, to that divinity or his spouse Kali; but it is most especially observed at the Amavasya, or day of conjunction. The hour of presentation is that of sunset. The illumination was particularly brilliant at Sulkea, several tiers of lamps lining the banks of the river, for a considerable distance; the offerings, we understand, of the crews of the coasting vessels or dhoneys. Besides lamps, bundles of the straw of the flax plant are set on fire, in honour of the manes of those who have died in battle, or in a foreign land.—[Cal. Gov. Gaz., Nov. 2.]

CHOWRINGHEE THEATRE.

The performance at the Chowringhee Theatre last Friday evening passed off with great *éclat*. The house was fuller even than on the former occasion, which

we trust is a tolerably conclusive sign that the taste for theatrical amusements, whatever it may be elsewhere, is not on the decline in Calcutta. The pieces represented were the *Iron Chest*, and *Monsieur Tonson*, and both were most successful Thespian efforts, there being not a single instance of failure, and all appearing perfect in their parts. *Sir Edward Mortimer* was one of the ablest performances we have ever seen by the same amateur; the points of the part were very effectively given, and the tragic interest of the character was finely kept up throughout. The part of *Wilford* was by an amateur evidently quite at home on the boards, and was sustained with great ability. Of *Winter-ton* we need say nothing: the character is well known here as a standard one of the father of our Drury, and to dilate upon the excellencies of the representation would be superfluous; it was, in a few words, a most felicitous, or rather entirely perfect personation of the octogenarian. It appeared as if some portrait of an old garrulous steward, such as we read of in some of our best old romances, had become animated and trod the boards. We have no time to dwell particularly on the other characters. They comprised great excellence; and among them we were glad to see one or two debutants. *Sampson* was a very lively and pleasing performance, and sung a song which was much applauded.

Monsieur Tonson called forth continual plaudits and bursts of laughter from the audience. We cannot imagine a possibly better effort of dramatic comic talent than *Morbleu*. In dress, movement, gesture, language, looks, every thing, he was quite above all praise. What can we add to this, save the expression of our gratitude for one of the most delightful treats that we ever experienced within the walls of any theatre. *Tom King*, was without exception, we think, the best dramatic essay yet exhibited on our boards by the amateur who represented the part. It was a gay, elegant and spirited performance, full of that *vivida vis animi*, which we should naturally look for in a "fine young fellow about town."

The other characters were capitally supported, and the ladies of the piece acquitted themselves, in this as well as the preceding one, to the highest advantage.—
[India Gaz. Nov. 20.]

EARTHQUAKE IN NEPAL.

On the 29th October, at 2 A. M., the valley of Nepal was convulsed by an earthquake. The first great shock was followed by eight lesser vibrations. The former was a sudden vertical jolt (which stopped the locks and watches) not an undulation; its direction could not, therefore, be ascer-

ascertained. The smaller shocks were from S. to N. The weather had been unsettled till within twenty-four hours of the occurrence, when it became singularly fine. Six houses were destroyed in Catmandoo, also a temple near the city, and the residency, a mile distant. Seven lives were lost there. At Patun fourteen houses fell, but no person was killed. Smaller shocks, attended by considerable noise, occurred in the night of 29th and on the 30th.

NEW ZEALAND PRINCE.

Amongst the curiosities imported into Calcutta by Capt. Dillon of the *St. Patrick*, is a New Zealand prince, who calls himself, or is called, Brian Boroinbe, and who is attended by a *nobleman*, named Morgan McMurroth. How these individuals acquired such ridiculous designations does not appear. The prince is sixteen years of age, about five feet ten inches high, robust and well-proportioned. His complexion is dark, but not black, and his face tattooed in part only. His dress is described as a kind of kilt, with a wide mantle made of hemp. The objects of his visit are stated to be to "improve himself by travel," and to procure from the government of Bengal a supply of arms, to protect his people from a hostile tribe that dwell near the Bay of Islands. On Sunday, September 10th, the prince visited Barrackpore, and was received by Lord Combermere with great attention. His Lordship presented him with a handsome sword, sash, and medal, bearing the likeness of our King, which the prince wore round his neck suspended by a blue ribbon. He felt deeply impressed with the affability of the Vice-president, and grateful for the kind attentions shewn him at Calcutta. One of his attendants was roughly handled by some chokeydars, who took him for a *Burmese spy*.

SETTLEMENTS TO THE EASTWARD.

We understand that the commerce of the settlements to the eastward, or Prince of Wales's Island, Singapore, and Malacca, has been taken into consideration by the Court of Directors, and that orders have been addressed accordingly to the several local authorities. The principle that these different ports should be placed on the same footing, in regard to duties, privileges, and immunities, has been fully recognised, and the intention of the instructions communicated has been, we learn, to assimilate them exactly in these respects. The principal object of these settlements being to promote the trade of Great Britain, and commerce flourishing most when least burdened, it has been determined to give the fullest efficacy to the facilities which the several establishments offer for contributing to

the commercial prosperity of the empire, by throwing them equally open to mercantile resort. Such import and export duties, therefore, as have been hitherto levied at Prince of Wales' Island and Malacca, will be, we understand, forthwith suspended, and they are to be made free ports like Singapore.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, Oct. 2.

CORRECTION OF THE LONGITUDES IN THE HOOGHLY.

The following Memorandum, containing the observations of the Marine Surveyor-General, respecting the longitudes of some of the principal places about the entrance of the River Hooghly, is published for general information:—

Memorandum.

After reducing the observations I have made in Calcutta, to the meridian of the flag staff of Fort William, I make its longitude $88^{\circ} 21' 9''$ East from Greenwich; and the undermentioned longitudes, which I have deduced from it, will be found a closer approximation to the truth than those given in the published chart of the navigation about the entrance of this river.

Instead of

Kedgerie Light—	} $87^{\circ} 59' 38''$ $88^{\circ} 4' 0''$ E.
House, in	
Large Trees	} 88 5.24 88 11 0
near Middleton	
Point on Saugor	} 88 10.39 88 16 15
The Reef Buoy	
Floating Light	} 88 19.44 88 25 20
Light House on	
Point Palmyras	} 87 5.53 87 12 0
False Point	
.....	86 53.07 87 0 0

The differences of longitude originate in Captain Court having allowed his first meridian (the flag-staff), a greater Eastern longitude than it appears to have, and not from any incorrectness of the relative distances of places in his survey.

(Signed) DAN. ROSS,

Marine Surveyor General.

J. TROTTER, Secretary.

Marine Board, Sept. 20, 1826.

SHIPPING.

Arrivals in the River.

Nov. 10. *Hercules*, Vaughan, from London.—12. *Gilmore*, Laws, from Penang.—13. *Ganges*, Lloyd, from Singapore, &c.—20. *John*, Dawson, from London.—*Mary Ann*, Spittswood, from ditto; *Cornwall*, Youngusband, from ditto; *John Taylor*, Pearce, from Liverpool; and *Donna Carmelita*, Wylie, from Mexico.—23. *Symmetry*, Smith, from London.—25. *Lady Kernebury*, Surgen, from London.—28. *Ganges*, Mitford, from Liverpool, and *Frances*, Heard, from London.—30. *Berwick*, Ellbeck, from Bombay.—Dec. 2. *Reaper*, Broad, from London.—5. *Madras*, Beach, from London.—8. *Chromaster*, Boyes, from London.—14. *Rockingham*, Rotheringham, from London.—15. *Lady Flora*, Fayer, from ditto; and *Esperanza*, Bullen, from Harbinger and London.—15. *Atlas*, Hunt, and *Edinburgh*, Tait, both London.—16. *John Hayes*, Worthington, and *Barbador*, Brown, both from Liverpool.

Departures from Calcutta.

Nov. 8. *Resolution*, Binney, for South America.
 —9. *Erica*, Cuthbertson, for Muscat.—12. *Rival*, Wallace, for London.—14. *Mervaid*, Yates, for London.—16. *City of Edinburgh*, Milne, for London, via Cape.—Dec. 1. *Hope*, Flint, for Madras and London.—4. *Ganges*, Boulton, and *Maira*, Hornblow, both for London.—8. *Faerie*, Short, for London.—9. *Timandra*, Wray, and *Britannia*, Lamb, both for London.—17. *Malroin*, Eyles, for Madras and London.—18. *Lady Kennaway*, Surflin, for Ceylon and London.—19. *Aurora*, Earl, for Madras and London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

July 26. At Futtchghur, Mrs. M. A. Scott, of a daughter.

Aug. 12. At Keitah, the lady of Capt. F. Steer, of a son.

Oct. 1. At Cuttack, the lady of W. F. Pennington, Esq., superintendent of northern division of Juggurnauth road, of a daughter.

23. At Futtchghur, the lady of J. W. Jacob, Esq., of a son and heir.

25. At Patna, the lady of J. W. Templer, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.

— At Cawnpore, Mrs. W. Gee, of a daughter.

28. At Nudjuff Ghur, near Cawnpore, the lady of Alex. Orr, Esq., of a daughter.

— At Dacca, the lady of F. Law, Esq., civil service, of a son.

31. The lady of the Rev. T. Proctor, of a son.

Nov. 1. The lady of G. Mackillop, Esq., of a son.

— Mrs. J. Picachy, of a daughter.

2. At Bankipore, Patna, the lady of F. Gouldsbury, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.

— At Banda, the lady of R. Walker, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.

— The lady of G. F. Thompson, Esq., of a son.

3. At Kilderpore, Mrs. J. R. Aitken, of a daughter.

4. At Allahabad, Mrs. A. D'Cruz, of a son.

6. Mrs. M. McKenzie, of a daughter.

7. The lady of R. Winter, Esq., of a son.

— At Chinsurah, the lady of J. D. Herklots, Esq., of a daughter.

9. Mrs. John D'Roosario, of a son.

11. At Allahabad, the lady of Maj. Fendall, of a daughter.

12. At Barrackpore, the lady of Lieut. Lennox, 43d N.I., of a daughter.

— Mrs. J. W. Ricketts, of a son.

— At Tumlook, the lady of C. W. Welchman, Esq., M.D., of a daughter.

13. Mrs. Arrowmild, wife of Mr. R. Arrowsmith, H.C.'s marine, of a daughter.

14. Mrs. E. Billon, of a daughter.

— At Banjette, Moorsheadabad, the lady of A. C. Maclean, Esq., of a son.

15. At Coxially, the lady of E. W. Hudson, Esq., of a son.

— Mrs. M. A. Roch, of a daughter.

16. At Rutnagery, the lady of G. Elliot, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.

17. The wife of Mr. G. Rebello, of the Custom House, of a daughter.

18. Mrs. R. Jacob, of a daughter.

19. In Russel Street, Chowringhee, the lady of G. Wood, Esq., of a son.

20. The lady of Lieut. John Tritton, H.M.'s 11th Lt. Draga., of a son.

Dec. 12. Mrs. C. H. Johnson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

June 26. At Almora, Capt. T. R. Fell, major of brigade at Dacca, to Martha Ann, second daughter of Lieut. Col. W. C. Faithfull, Bengal establishment.

July 30. At Almora, Lieut. J. D. D. Bean, interper. and qu. mast., 23d N.I., to Maria, eldest daughter of Lieut. Col. W. C. Faithfull, Bengal establishment.

Nov. 1. At Noacolly, W. H. Steer, Esq., to Miss Susanne E. Cardew.

4. Capt. Geo. Moore, 80th regt., to Miss S. Catell.

7. At Lucknow, Lieut. G. N. Prole, 38th regt. N.I., to Margaret, daughter of the late B. Ferguson, Esq.

11. Geo. Thorp, Esq., of the firm of Hamilton and Co., to Miss M. R. Remfry.

— Mr. L. Peters, of Saugor, in Bundelcund, to Mrs. Ellen Abraham, widow of the late Mr. J. Abraham, apothecary in H.C.'s service.

— Mr. W. Reed to Mrs. Mary Browne, widow of the late Mr. Wm. Browne.

13. Mr. J. Clements to Miss T. C. Almead.

15. Mr. D. George, indigo planter, Jessore, to Miss Jean Fleeming.

Dec. 6. Mr. Jas. Barber, surgeon and officiating assist. surg. H.C.'s service, to Mary, daughter-in-law of Capt. Hutchinson, H.M.'s 87th Foot.

12. John Dempster, Esq., M.D., H.M.'s 38th regt., to Agnes, fourth daughter of the late A. Colquhoun, Esq.

DEATHS.

June 18. At sea, on board the *Catherine Frances*, the infant daughter of Lieut. Col. Raper.

Sept. 27. At Benarcs, Mrs. John Colliss, aged 47.

Oct. 19. At Nusseerabad, Lieut. Nelson, 56th regt. N.I.

24. At Hanale, Lieut. Rich. Grueber, 2d in command, 1st Local Horse.

28. At Allahabad, Mary, wife of Mr. Assist. Comm. Bachman, aged 34.

30. Mrs. Eliz. Williams, aged 55.

— At the General Hospital, Mr. R. Ure, free merchant, son of John Ure, Esq., comptroller of government customs, Leith.

Nov. 1. At Point Palmiras, Mr. W. Blair, assistant at the light-house there, aged 45.

2. Capt. Fred. Mbuat, formerly commander of the *Morning Star*.

3. — Mr. P. S. D'Cruz, of the Calcutta Baptist Mission Press, aged 52.

6. At Ghazepore, the lady of John Hunter, Esq., civil service; also her infant daughter.

16. At Itally, Mr. H. White, son of the late Colonel White, and nephew of the late Gen. Sir Henry White, K.C.B., aged 38.

17. D. D. Jameson, Esq., aged 27.

19. Lieut. B. J. Fleming, 11th N.I., aged 24.

20. Mr. F. E. Jacobl, aged 42.

— Mr. C. Moller, aged 35.

22. Mr. N. G. Draine, aged 23.

24. At Cawnpore, Dr. Clarke Abel, late physician to the Governor-general, and formerly apothecary to the Hon. Company.

Dec. 7. Mr. Officiating Assist. Surg. J. H. Turkington, aged 24.

Madras.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDERS.

TREASURE ESCORTS.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 5, 1826.— Under the sanction of Government, his Exc. the Commander-in-chief is pleased to direct, that officers commanding treasure escorts shall not hereafter be held responsible for the contents of such packages of treasure as may be delivered over to them. The collector making the remittance, and his servants, are answerable for the contents of such packages, and the officer receiving charge will alone be required to pass his receipt for a certain number of packages, contents unknown, and to see that the same are delivered unbroken and unopened.

Officers commanding treasure escorts are consequently exonerated from the duty of seeing the treasure either packed or unpacked

unpacked, and escorts are not to be required until the treasure has been packed up, and are to be dispensed with as soon as the packages have been duly delivered, and before their contents are counted out.

The G. O. C. C. of the 26th Jan. 1821 is hereby cancelled.

STRENGTH OF NATIVE REGIMENTS.

Fort St. George, Aug. 26, 1826.—The Hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that a regiment of native infantry, including the light infantry and extra regiments, be fixed at (800) eight hundred rank and file, except the regiments noted in the margin* employed on foreign service, which are to remain as at present, (960) nine hundred and sixty rank and file each.

The privates in regiments of infantry respectively in excess to the establishments now ordered, are to be returned as "supernumeraries," until vacancies occur to bring them on the effective strength of corps.

UNIFORM OF THE NEW REGIMENTS.

Fort St. George, Sept. 27.—The uniforms established by G. O. of the 7th Feb. 1826 for the 1st and 2d Extra Regiments, are established as the fixed uniforms of the 51st and 52d regiments N I. respectively; and the 1st and 2d Extra Regiments will continue to wear the uniform established by the same G. O. for the 3d and 4th Extra Regiments respectively.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR.

The Governor and party ascended the Neilgherries as far as Cotagerry on the 25th Sept., and on the 27th proceeded to Mr. Sullivan's residence at Ootacomun, where they were to remain until the 30th, on which day they proposed to descend on the Mysore side of the mountains. The tents and baggage had been sent round by the Guzelhutti Pass. Every anticipation relative to the fineness of the climate and the beauty of the scenery on the Neilgherries, had been most fully realized—indeed, a person could scarcely form an adequate idea of this beautiful part of the country without going over it.—*Madras Gov. Gaz. Oct. 5.*

The camp of the Governor had left Bangalore, and on the 14th October was near Colar, all well: the probable day of arrival at the presidency was not then known, but it was expected they would descend into the Carnatic at Sautgur, on the 19th.—*Ibid., Oct. 19.*

Letters from Madras mention, that while in the neighbourhood of Trichinopoly, the tent of the Hon. the Governor

1st Regt. N.I.; 32d do.; 36th do.

was entered by thieves and robbed of the whole of its contents, not even excepting his Excellency's wearing apparel.—*Cal. John Bull.*

ROBBERIES.

We hear that the neighbourhood of Madras, and particularly the road between this and Wallajahbad, is greatly infested with gangs of robbers. The baggage of several officers has been plundered lately by these daring depredators, and one officer we hear was attacked in his palanken, and was wounded before he got clear of the rascals.—*Mad. Cour. Sept. 1.*

HURRICANE AT MASULIPATAM.

Letters have been received from Masulipatam, which state that the most violent hurricane ever remembered was experienced there on the 16th and 17th of last month: fortunately there was no ship in the harbour, but the swell rose to such a height, and dashed with such violence on the shore, that a great part of the fort was washed down. We have not heard whether much damage was otherwise sustained.—*Beng. Hurk., Nov. 8.*

THE WEATHER.

The rains still hold off, and colds and fevers are unusually prevalent. The holders of grain have already taken advantage of the dry weather to raise the price of the great staff of life, which is occasioning much distress to the unfortunate poor.—*Mad. Cour., Oct. 31.*

MASSACRE ON BOARD THE "TANGA."

The *Madras Gazette* of Nov. 2 contains the following account:—"On the 2d September as the schooner Tanga, late of the H. C. Flotilla, lay in the mouth of the Irrawuddi, whence she was to have proceeded on a trading voyage down the river, two Malay lascars of the crew rose upon the rest, between 2 or 3 o'clock of the morning of the day before-mentioned, and commenced an immediate work of death; they having already set to rest the troubles of a few of their fellow-sailors, attacked the captain (Langley), who, after having received one or two stabs, jumped overboard. The current being too strong, and weakened from loss of blood, he could not make the shore, but returned to the schooner, and implored most earnestly to be taken on board. As an inducement, the drowning captain offered to discover where all the money on board was stowed away; provided they (the Malays) would send him ashore. The wretches, to make their work secure, obstinately refused to allow him to come on board. After vain solicitations the captain left the schooner, and in his attempt to swim ashore, perished. Six of the

crew were murdered on board the schooner; and two escaped wounded and bleeding: these reached the shore, and made known the murders which had taken place. The villains have been secured and brought to trial, the result of which was not correctly ascertained when our correspondent closed his letter.

THE MADRAS APPRENTICING SOCIETY.

The first report of this society has been published. The result is favourable; though it appears that there is a reluctance on the part of parents to placing their children out to mechanical trades, by means of the society. The report refers to the Indo-British community in the following terms:

"To estimate the utility of the Madras Apprenticing Society, it is only necessary to consider the present state of the Eurasian community. The situations of writers and clerks are almost the only occupations that have hitherto afforded them employment, and the depreciation which those sources naturally sustain, by the competition arising from the rapid increase of candidates, both among them and the natives, is attended with the consequence of such low wages as are scarcely equal, in many instances, to secure the bare necessities of life. The importance therefore of directing the attention of this class of people to other occupations, and of assisting them in their acquirement, becomes obvious.

"It is a fact also amply borne out by experience, that to whatever pursuit the attention and abilities of Eurasians have been properly directed, and suitably encouraged, they have not failed to realize every expectation in their favour. Indeed there are fortunately now existing examples of successful enterprise among this class of persons, which it is hoped will operate as powerful inducements to stimulate the young to acquire a proficiency in mechanical trades and occupations, as opening to them the road to such distinction and wealth as the situation of a writer can seldom afford."

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Oct. 16. *Hercules*, Vaughan, from London.—Nov. 3. *Lalla Rookh*, Stewart, from London.—7. *Cambridge*, Barber, from London.—10. *Atlas*, Hunt, from London.—28. *James Sibbald*, Forbes, from London.—Dec. 8. *Mermala*, Yates, from Calcutta.—4. *Castle Forbes*, Ord, from London.

Departure.

Oct. 18. *Hercules*, Vaughan, for Calcutta.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Sept. 26. At Kamptee, near Nagpore, the lady of Lieut. Col. Bowdler, commanding 41st regt., of a son.

30. At Cuddapah, the lady of J. Haig, Esq., of daughter.

Oct. 3. At Cuddalore, Mrs. M. D'Var, of a daughter.

5. At the Neilgherries, the lady of John Sullivan, Esq., of a daughter.

9. At Bangalore, the lady of the Rev. T. W. Masse, Mysore Mission College, of a son.

10. The lady of G. Tod, Esq., of a daughter.

— Mrs. Jesse Blacker, of a daughter.

— Mrs. C. Ellis, of a daughter.

16. At Coimbatore, the lady of J. Morton, Esq., assist. surgeon, of a daughter.

18. At Vellore, the lady of O. F. Sturt, Esq., Madras N.I., of a son.

— The lady of the Rev. F. Spring, A.M., of a still-born child.

— Mrs. E. MacDowell, of a daughter.

23. The lady of J. A. Hindleston, Esq., of a son.

Nov. 1. The lady of the Hon. H. S. Graeme, Esq., member of council, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Oct. 15. At Wallajahbad, Mr. T. Rives to Mrs. Louisa Campbell, widow of the late Mr. John Muffin.

21. At Vepery, Mr. Matthew Skillern to Miss Magdalene Thacker.

28. Mr. G. Francis to Miss S. Rogers.

28. At Palamcottah, J. Caswall, Esq., to Mrs. Fullerton, widow of the late Capt. Fullerton, of the engineers.

Nov. 2. At Bangalore, Lieut. Amsinck, qu. mast. and interp. to 2d brig. horse artil., to Eliza Emma Juliana, second daughter of the late Colonel Greene, Bengal establishment.

DEATHS.

Aug. 24. Near Rajahmundry, Capt. Richard Cooke, 25th Regt. N.I.

27. At Arcot, Lieut. Chas. Thwaites, 1st L.C.

Sept. 30. At Cuddapah, Mary, wife of J. Haig, Esq., aged 30.

Oct. 9. At Pondicherry, Mary Stuart Celestine, daughter of Capt. N. I. Bergeon, half-pay of H.M.'s Meurton Regt.

20. At Tranquebar, Amadis Morrell, youngest son of Mr. J. Morrell.

— Alice, the wife of Mr. J. Gabell.

16. At the presidency, Lieut. T. M. Simkins, H.M.'s 46th Regt.

23. At Secunderabad, Lieut. G. W. Thompson, H.M.'s 30th Regt.

22. At Arcot, Charles Edward Ricketts, only son of Lieut. E. A. Langley, 3d L.C.

Bombay.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDER.

SOLDIERS' DISCHARGES.

Bombay Castle, Sept. 2, 1826.—The General Order of the 25th Oct. 1824, fixing the sum of Rupees 320 for the discharge of a soldier, is rescinded, and the sum of £80, or Rupees 711. 0. 44 is fixed as the sum to be in future required for that indulgence.

COURT-MARTIAL.

LIEUT. M'KENZIE, H.M.'s 2D FOOT.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, Oct. 19, 1826. At a general court-martial held at Poonah, on the 4th July 1826, and continued by adjournments, Lieut. George McKenzie, of the 2d or Queen's Royal Regiment

of Foot, was arraigned on the undermentioned charges:

1st. "For persevering in an undue intercourse with the late private William Cooke, when a sergeant in the regiment, and subsequently (between the months of June and Dec. 1825), although cautioned on the subject, and ordered repeatedly to discontinue such conduct, by desire of the commanding officer, and more particularly after having pledged his word to the adjutant of the regiment, on or about the 20th July 1825, that such intercourse should cease; such conduct being highly subversive of military discipline, and giving rise to reports highly disgraceful and prejudicial to him (Lieut. McKenzie) amongst the officers and men of the 2d or Queen's Royal Regiment of Foot, from which he never attempted to clear himself.

2d. "For having neglected to report to the commanding officer of H.M.'s 20th regt., that he (Lieut. McKenzie) had caused to be confined private Charles McHugh of that regiment, for having been found out of his barracks and in his (Lieut. McKenzie's) quarters, on or about 11 o'clock on the night of the 5th May last.

3d. In having neglected the requisition of the commanding officer of H.M.'s 20th regt. to attend as prosecutor, or as an evidence at the trial of the said private Charles McHugh, before a regimental court-martial held on or about the 8th May 1826, on the following charge, *viz.* For unsoldier-like conduct in being out of his barracks after hours, and found secreted in his (Lieut. McKenzie's) bed on the night of the 5th inst. (May), and of which charge the said private Charles McHugh was found guilty; and in having neglected to take any measures in order to explain the extraordinary circumstances stated in the said charge, that the said soldier, Charles McHugh, had been found concealed in his (Lieut. McKenzie's) bed, thereby exposing his own character to the most disgraceful reports, and highly discreditable to his Majesty's service.

4th. "For having repeatedly employed soldiers as servants without leave from his commanding officer, more particularly in the instance of private James Turner, of the light company Queen's Royals, who was so employed from about the 25th day of January to about the 5th day of May last, and for allowing the said soldier to sleep within his (the prisoner's) bungalow or quarters, in direct disobedience of the regimental order of the 30th of June 1825.

5th. "In having repeatedly entertained sergeants of the regiment at his (Lieut. McKenzie's) quarters, or permitted them to be so entertained at his expense, after tattoo beating, during the months of March

and April last, and in particular Sergeants Turner and Macdonald, on the night of the 14th March; and also Sergeants Turner, Graham, and Curneen, on the night of the 17th March 1826; thereby countenancing great irregularity on the part of those non-commissioned officers, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

Additional Charge.

"For highly unofficerlike and insubordinate conduct, subversive of military discipline, in having addressed to his immediate commanding officer, Lieut. col. J. Williams, two extremely disrespectful letters, under the dates of the 27th May and 1st June 1826, and in having resorted, as intimated by him in the last-mentioned of those letters, to other means for obtaining redress for certain alleged wrongs than those which are pointed out in the 12th section of the Articles of War, although he well knew that a memorial or representation on the subject, dated 15th May 1826, which he had himself transmitted, was then under reference to superior authority, and that no decision had taken place with respect to granting or refusing the redress which he had therein requested."

Upon which charges the court came to the following decision:

Finding.—"The court having maturely weighed and considered all that has been adduced in support of the prosecution on the original charges preferred against Lieut. George McKenzie, of H.M.'s 2d or Queen's Royal Regiment of Foot, as well as what has been brought forward on the defence, are of opinion that the prisoner, Lieut. George McKenzie, is not guilty of the 1st, 2d, 3d and 5th charges, and they do therefore most fully and honourably acquit him of all and every part of the said charges.

"The court are further of opinion that the prisoner is not guilty of the first part of the 4th charge, of which therefore they acquit him; but that he is guilty of having employed private James Turner as his servant, without having previously obtained the leave of the commanding officer, and having allowed the said private to sleep in his quarters, contrary to a regimental order, and they do in consequence adjudge him, the said Lieut. Geo. McKenzie, to be admonished by his Excellency the Commander-in-chief. But with respect to the employment of private Thomas Foy, as it appears that the prisoner has been already censured on this account by his commanding officer, the court have not thought it necessary to take this instance into their consideration, in awarding the preceding punishment.

"The court are further of opinion, that the 1st and 3d charges (with exception of the first part of the latter, which they consider to be frivolous) are vexatious calumnies,

nies, and totally unfounded; and the court cannot therefore but regret that the prosecutor should have so far forgotten the justice due to the prisoner as to bring into public discussion, without any previous inquiry, reports of so defamatory and injurious a nature, on the bare surmises of some officers of his regiment, who have not been able to depose, during these proceedings, to a single circumstance which could in the slightest degree sanction or justify such surmises.

"The court are further of opinion, that the prisoner is guilty of all and every part of the Additional Charge, except the word "highly," preferred against him, in breach of the Articles of War in such cases made and provided, and they do therefore adjudge him, the said Lieut. Geo. McKenzie, to lose five steps in his regiment, and to be placed next below Lieut. R. Carruthers."

Confirmed,

(Signed) T. BRADFORD, *Lieut. Gen.*

Remarks by the Commander-in-chief:

"The Commander-in-chief, after a careful consideration of the proceedings, approves of the finding and judgment of the court upon the 1st, 3d, 4th, 5th, and additional charges, with the exception of terming the first part of the third charge "frivolous;" for, although Lieut. McKenzie was in the sick list, he is proved to have been out when equally so the morning previous to private McHugh's trial, and late the evening some distance from his bungalow; and when spoken to by two other officers regarding the prosecuting of McHugh, he told them in express terms he did not think that it was necessary to attend this court-martial: the inference to be drawn from these circumstances was, that he had no intention of doing that which is expected from every officer in support of discipline, whether the delinquency passing under his notice is committed by a man of his own regiment or another.

"If his Excellency is to understand, by the court's acquittal of Lieut. McKenzie upon the 2d charge, they considered that officer had done his duty, in merely directing the serjeant of the guard to make out the crime against private McHugh, deeming it sufficient that the circumstances of this man's misconduct should reach the commanding officer through the medium of the Guard Report alone, without any more direct report being made by himself, the Commander-in-chief cannot agree in opinion with them, as it was the imperative duty of Lieut. McKenzie to have made a communication to the commanding officer upon the subject, at the same time furnishing such a crime himself against the prisoner as was calculated to meet the offence. In making these ob-

servations upon the 2d charge, the Commander-in-chief thinks it necessary to express his regret, that the regimental court-martial accompanying these proceedings by which private McHugh was tried, had not adjourned to Lieut. McKenzie's quarters, or until such time as he could appear to give his evidence; by this means much light might have been thrown upon the circumstance stated in the charge, which was not entered into by Serjeant Russel or the other evidence; and a great deal of misconception regarding the situation in which that soldier was found in Lieut. McKenzie's bungalow might have been avoided.

"The Commander-in-chief has a painful duty now to perform, in finding occasion to comment severely upon the conduct of the prosecutor, and expressing his most marked disapprobation of Lieut. col. Williams having, under any circumstances, assembled his officers, and rendered them a deliberative body, to form illiberal and heedless suspicion into positive and grave offences. Lieut. colonel Williams having slidden into this error, excluded every other means of intermediate investigation which could render sufficient justice to the prisoner or the service, and the result would now justly recoil upon the commanding officer, if the Commander-in-chief did not find an excuse in Lieut. col. Williams' inexperience; in his ardent, though mistaken zeal in this instance, and in the high sense of honour for the credit of the regiment which appears to have hurried him, and his officers alike, to magnify and believe a mass of unfounded prejudices against one of their members, who has now been declared honourably innocent.

"The Commander-in-chief is sensible that the painful reflections which this rash conduct must produce in the officers of the Queen's Royals, will also bring salutary impressions of the injustice they have committed, while he commands his expectations to be fully understood by them, that Lieut. McKenzie shall be admitted into their society free of all heart-burning, in the cheerful confidence which his full and honourable acquittal commands, and entitles him to. On the part of Lieut. McKenzie, his acquittal has been so complete, and every suspicion which could be attached to the character of that officer so fully removed, the Commander-in-chief anticipates as well as enjoins, he will abstain from every vindictive feeling. For having employed private James Turner as his servant, without previously obtaining the leave of his commanding officer, and having allowed the said private to sleep in his bungalow, contrary to regimental orders, upon which Lieut. McKenzie has been found guilty, the Commander-in-chief admonishes him; and

and as his Excellency concurs in the recommendation of the court, and remits the degradation of rank awarded against Lieut. McKenzie on his being found guilty of the additional charge, he directs Lieut. McKenzie to be released from his arrest and return to his duty.—The Commander-in-chief cannot conclude his remarks upon this court-martial without noticing the disadvantage of allowing their proceedings to be encumbered with a great deal of matter, much of it apparently for the purpose of either gratifying talent for composition, or less worthy feelings, and observations as indiscreet as irrelevant and inconsistent with good taste. Nothing can be more unmilitary, or further from the object of plain and prompt justice, than the unnecessary introduction of matter, and displays of the kind alluded to, which every court-martial should timely control and check."

The foregoing order is to be entered in the general order book, and read at the head of every regiment in his Majesty's service in India.

By order of the Commander-in-chief,

A. MACDONALD,

Adj. Gen. of H.M.'s Forces in India.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENT.

Oct. 6. The Rev. James Gray to be chaplain in Cutch.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Bombay Castle, Oct. 5, 1826.—Cadets A. Morrison, G. H. Bellasis, J. E. Fackney, and A. Thomas, admitted to infantry, and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. W. Rowland admitted as an assist. surg.

Cornets posted to Regts. P. G. Dallas to 2d L.C.; R. H. Rickards, 3d do.; C. F. Jackson, 2d do.; Thos. Eyre, 3d do.

Ensigns posted to Regts. G. W. Walker to 23d N.I.; J. R. Hibbert, 7th do.; A. Meadows, 18th do.; W. G. Duncan, 24th do.; C. S. Mant, 6th do.

Lieut. Col. Com. Leighton appointed to general staff of army on allowance of a maj. gen., and to relieve Lieut. Col. Com. Hessman, in command of Surat div. of army.

Maj. J. W. Aitchison, dep. adj. gen., to be acting adj. gen. of army until further orders.

Oct. 12.—Ens. L. M. McIntyre, of 19th N.I., and Ens. W. B. Salmon, of 2d Europ. Regt., permitted to exch. corps.

Oct. 13.—24th N.I. Ens. A. Shephard to be lieut., v. W. Stewart dec.

Oct. 16.—Assist. surg. Straker, 6th N.I., to accompany Hon. the Governor on his approaching tour from Poona.

Oct. 19.—Mr. J. P. Malcolmson, surg. of ship *Boyne*, admitted as an acting assist. surg. on estab. for such period only as his services may be required.

Assist. Adj. Gen. Capt. Leighton, to act as dep. adj. gen. of army.

Capt. F. M. Iredell, 16th N.I., to act as assist. adj. gen. to Gulcower Subd. Force during absence of Capt. Leighton.

Oct. 23.—15th N.I. Lieut. T. Mitchell, interp. in Marhatta language, to be interp. also in Hindoostanee and qu. mast., v. Jones app. adj. & date 16th Sept. 1826.

5th N.I. Lieut. C. Prescott to be adj., v. Spencer transf.; date 16th Sept. 1826.

15th N.I. Lieut. C. R. W. Jones to be adj., v. McMahon transf.; date 16th Sept. 1826.

Pioneer Bat. Lieut. J. B. Levery to be adj., v. Laing prom.; date 16th Sept. 1826.

Oct. 24.—1st Gr. N.I. Lieut. F. Chibborn to be adj., v. Teasdale transf.; date 16th Sept. 1826.

Oct. 27.—15th N.I. Ens. A. Hamerton to be lieut., v. C. R. V. Jones dec.; date 17th Oct. 1826.

18th N.I. Lieut. A. F. Bartlet to be adj., v. Luyken prom.; date 16th Sept. 1826.

Nov. 3.—Acting Assist. surg. Malcolmson to have med. charge of H.C.'s cruiser *Nautilus*.

Nov. 4.—15th N.I. Lieut. J. Dawes to be adj., v. Jones dec.; date 17th Oct. 1826.

Mr. W. B. Goodfellow admitted to engineers, and prom. to 2d Lieut.

Nov. 7.—1st L.C. Lieut. S. Poole to be adj., v. Conyngham resigned; date 24th Oct. 1826.

2d L.C. Lieut. W. J. Ottley to be qu. mast. and interp. in Hindoostanee; date 1st Nov. 1826.

Regt. of Artil. Lieut. T. Cleather to be qu. mast. and interp. in Hindoostanee to Golundauze bat.; date 1st Nov. 1826; Lieut. E. Prother to be qu. mast. and interp. to 1st bat.; do.

2d Europ. Inf. Lieut. W. C. Bell to be interp. in Hindoostanee; date 1st Nov. 1826.

Ensigns posted to Regts. J. E. Falkncy to 15th N.I.; G. H. Bellasis, 24th do.; A. Thomas, 8th do.; A. Morrison, 3d do.

FURLOUGHES.

To Europe.—Oct. 5. Lieut. R. Foster, of engineers, for health.—12. Lieut. Col. T. Burford, 3d N.I., agreeably to regulations.—Ens. W. T. C. Scriven, 5th N.I., for health.—30. Lieut. Col. Com. W. Turner, 1st L.C., agreeably to regulations.—Nov. 4. Maj. J. B. Dunsterville, 1st or Gr. N.I., ditto.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Nov. 3. Maj. R. Barnewell, 26th N.I., for health.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PIRACY.

We understand that, just before the commencement of the rains, two or three acts of piracy were committed in the neighbourhood of the Gulf of Cutch, by a party of twenty or thirty men under Jusso Laruk, who had come down from Scinde and seized a boat somewhere near Tooneak, a place in the Gulf. It appears that the pirates took advantage of the government armed boat having been despatched to another quarter from the cruising ground, and in the first instance seized four trading boats, but being laden with grain, they obtained little booty. After this they proceeded to the opposite side of the Gulf, where they abandoned their own vessel and which was taken to Mandavie, and claimed by the owners. Another act of a more serious nature than the above was committed about the same time, by six men supposed to belong to Bombay, where it is said the principal of the gang purchased a boat, and proceeding with the rest to sea, fell in with a battellah, bound to Surat, off Serrapoor, where they plundered her of every thing portable, and took the goods to a place near Mandavie: in conveying which to some place in the interior, one of the men was seized, and whose

whose deposition being taken, may perhaps lead to a discovery of the rest of the gang. The principal escaped, but as there is reason to suppose the crew of the plundered boat were made away with, it is to be hoped this fellow with his accomplices may be secured, and meet the punishment they deserve.

In addition to the above, it is reported that a boat, having on board a considerable sum in dollars, was plundered off Nowanuggur, and the property taken across the Runn by the robbers, as they were traced for a considerable distance along its southern edge; and where the bodies of two unfortunate travellers were found murdered, supposed to have been done by these miscreants, in order to prevent information being given.

Effectual means, we understand, have been taken by government to prevent the commission of the like acts, and to give security to vessels trading in the gulf of Cutch and its vicinity.—[*Bombay Gaz.*, Oct. 4.

THE KING OF JOHANNA.

We congratulate the community of Bombay on the arrival of the King of Johanna (in the brig *Koorvat* from Johanna), whose hospitality and kindness are so well known to all who have ever touched there on their way to India; we have had the honour of being introduced to his Majesty by his prime minister, Admiral Rodney, and from the short conversation we had with him, we were satisfied that he is possessed of a very quick discernment, and a ready apprehension of all that is passing around him. His Majesty, we should suppose, is not above thirty years of age, has only been three years upon the throne, and now visits Bombay for the first time. We are happy to add that the visits paid to His Majesty since his arrival have been most numerous and respectable, and that government, with their usual liberality, are to pay his expenses during his stay at Bombay.—[*Bom. Gaz.* Oct. 25.

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Oct. 22. *Runnemede*, Kemp, from Calcutta.—23. *Royal George*, Ellerby, from London.—Nov. 1. H.M.S. *Boadicea*, Carroll, from Madras.—15. *Carren*, McCarthy, from Calcutta.

Departures.

Oct. 12. *Atlanta*, Johnson, for London.—13. *More Castle*, Smith, for Liverpool.—24. *Hannah*, Shepherd, for China.—29. *Cornwallis*, Hardie, for China.—Nov. 1. *Boyne*, Miller, for Tellicherry, Cape, and London.—16. *James Scott*, Richards, for China.—Dec. 1. *Dorothy*, Garnock, for Liverpool, and *Providence*, Wauchope, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND

DEATHS.

Sept. 29. At *Diapoli*, the lady of Doctor Young, of a son.

5. At *Satara*, the lady of Capt. H. Adams, of a son.
9. At *Deesa*, the lady of Lieut. Col. Whitehill, 3d L.C., of a daughter.
10. Mrs. R. Baxter, of a daughter.
12. The lady of E. C. Harrison, Esq., garrison surgeon, of a son.
- At *Bhoj*, the lady of Capt. Holland, sub. assist. com. general, of a son.
13. The lady of the Rev. W. Mitchell, of the Church Missionary Society, of a daughter.
14. At *Hurnee*, the lady of the Rev. John Stevenson, of a son.
16. At *Bhoj*, the lady of Lieut. H. Corsellis, of a son.
- At *Rutnagiry*, the lady of Geo. Elliot, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
22. At *Bhoj*, the lady of Capt. Soppitt, 26th regt., of a daughter.
- Nov. 1. Mrs. E. Walpole, of a daughter.
12. The lady of the Ven. Archdeacon Hawtayne, of a son and heir.
15. The wife of Mr. Gabriel Sarsakes, of twins, a son and daughter.

MARRIAGES.

- Oct. 19. The Rev. Joseph Knight, church missionary of Jaffnapatam, in the island of Ceylon, to Mrs. Nichols, widow of the late Rev. John Nichols, of Tannah.
24. At *Poonah*, R. D. Luard, Esq., of the civil service, fourth son of John Luard, Esq., of Beeleigh Cottage, Maldon, Essex, to Mary Anne, second daughter of Maj. Gen. Sir Lionel Smith, K.C.B.
- Nov. 13. B. Hutt, Esq., of the civil service, to Eliza Maria, eldest daughter of P. Free, Esq.

DEATHS.

- Oct. 1. At *Poonah*, Francis R. Lopes, writer in the pay-office.
2. At *Poonah*, Lieut. Walter Stewart, 24th regt. N.I., aged 22.
5. At *Katra*, Robert Anderson, Esq., of the civil service.
8. At *Poonah*, Capt. Jas. O'Hara Johnston, of his Highness the Nizam's service.
16. At *Baroda*, Lieut. C. R. U. Jones, 15th regt. N.I.
27. At *Bycullah*, the lady of Dr. Chas. Ducat, civil surgeon, *Poonah*.
- Nov. 1. Mrs. Steward, lady of the Rev. J. Steward, of the Church Missionary Society, *Bombay*.
5. At *Cambay*, Capt. J. Finlay, 4th regt. N.I.
13. Mrs. Jane Wilson, mistress of the Girls' Central School, aged 37.

Ceylon.

LAW.

On the 16th September, the session for the provinces of Manaar, Jaffnapatam, Mullettove, Batticaloa, and Trincomalie, was opened at Jaffnapatam, before the Hon. Sir Richard Outley; on which occasion the puisne justice delivered a suitable address to the magistrates, expressing his satisfaction at the reduction in the number of cases compared with the calendar of last year, and that by their vigilance the principal gang of robbers had been apprehended and brought to justice. The number of cases in the calendar of last year amounts to fifty-eight and 157 prisoners, and that of this year to thirty-six cases and 101 prisoners; of which seventeen cases were tried, and the prisoners convicted, ten acquitted, five discharged without prosecution, three pleaded guilty, and one postponed, the prisoner being still insane.—[*Ceylon Gaz.* Oct. 14.

BIRTHS.

BIRTH.

Oct. 10. At Colombo, the lady of J. Boustead, Esq., paymast. Ceylon Regt., of a daughter.

DEATHS.

Sept. 29. At Colombo, Mr. J. H. Danner, aged 68.

Oct. 4. At Colombo, Capt. Thomson, late of H.M.'s 83d regt.

Penang.

TREACHERY OF THE ACHEENESE.

The native ship *Futteh Ellajah*, of Bombay, came into the harbour on Monday last under charge of the gunner, who gives the following narrative of a most daring and atrocious attempt to cut off that vessel by one of the chiefs on the Coast of Pedier, which is a farther proof, (if such was necessary) of the treacherous conduct of the Acheenese.

It appears that the Nacodah of the vessel had been trading with the chief at Sgvang, and had taken on board a quantity of betel nut; a balance being to be settled, the chief went on board in a large boat manned with seventeen men, on pretence of settling accounts. The Nacodah of the vessel not suspecting any treachery from the good understanding which existed between them in the whole of their transactions, admitted the chief with his followers on board. On being seated and pretending to enter upon business, the Acheenese Chief suddenly stabbed the Nacodah and killed him on the spot, and then turned upon the supercargo, or krany of the vessel, whom he also stabbed in several parts of his body, of which wounds he died a few days after; five others were also wounded before they could recover themselves from the sudden panic. The Syrang, however, fortunately rallied the crew and turned a gun, which had been kept loaded with grape, a precaution they generally take on that coast, upon the assailants, and fired it off, which killed several of the chief's party, who immediately jumped into their boat and made off; but the Syrang and crew continued to fire upon them with the guns of the vessel, loaded with grape, and only five of the assailants, from the accounts they afterwards heard, landed from the boat. The Syrang immediately after cut his cable and made sail.

It would appear that it was a preconcerted thing, as the beach was lined with people who were ready with boats to afford assistance. Two other native vessels also cut their cables and made sail, apprehending an attack from their boats. —[*Penang Gaz.* Oct. 28.

Asiatic Journ. Vol. XXIII. No. 137.

PRESENT STATE OF THE ISLAND.

It would appear from our letters from Pinang, that Prince of Wales' Island has become so overgrown with jungle, to the very doors of George-Town, that a free and proper circulation of air cannot be expected, while the generating of vapours of the most noxious quality is a natural result of neglecting to clear the ground. The present Governor has the credit of cutting down and clearing, wherever he can; but nothing short of some act from home, empowering the abatement of nuisances with a greater plenitude of authority, will make Prince of Wales' Island what it was in respect of healthiness. In point of political importance it is rising, or fancies it is, from the accession of territory and authority lately bestowed on it, or rather about to be; for the charter annexing Singapore and Malacca to Pinang has not yet reached Prince of Wales' Island. In point of commercial importance the island has certainly, of late, fallen off. It is understood, however, to be so fully settled, that the appointment of the resident councillors at Malacca and Singapore had actually been made at home, and the delay in the signing of the charter is ascribed to his Majesty's illness—as also the delay in sending out the commission to the new judge at Pinang, who is there at present without his credentials. The authorities at home, when they annexed Malacca and Singapore to the southward to Pinang, were not aware of the acquisition of territory which this government had obtained to the northward in Mergui and the coast of Tennasserim; otherwise it is problematical how far they would have stretched the other arm to the extent they have done. We mentioned the other day that Captain Burney had been able to do little or nothing with that power, who it seems is determined not to give up its new acquisitions on the Queda side. The measure of handing over Singapore to Pinang is of course strongly reprobated at the former place; and the fine dreams in which people were indulging as to a grand eastern emporium of trade arising at that settlement, have vanished. We have not heard how the Honourable Court intended to have disposed of the late resident at Singapore, removed of course by the new arrangements from his appointment; but it is fortunate that other events have rendered the knowledge and services of Mr. Crawford available, in a department to which he had devoted so much attention, and already acquired so well-earned a reputation.—[*Cal. John Bull*, Oct. 30.

MARRIAGE.

Sept. 19. N. McA. McIntyre, Esq., to Jane, eldest daughter of Capt. Andrew Glass, late commander of the *Fort William*.

Malacca.

The arrival of Mr. Lewis from Penang, who we understand has been deputed by the hon. the Governor to inspect the state of Malacca, and the agricultural advantages it possesses, has revived the hopes of the few merchants resident here, and gives them a proof that this settlement is not altogether forgotten by him. We are assured that Mr. Fullerton takes a great interest in the place, and have ourselves heard him express it as his opinion that, in the course of time, Malacca, from its local advantages, might or would surpass either of its neighbours, Penang and Singapore. In a commercial point of view, Singapore is likely to retain its present superiority; but in an agricultural, the same cannot be said. Now is the time for the inhabitants of Malacca to rouse themselves; let them second the efforts and good wishes of the Governor by active exertions, and let them not allow indolence or carelessness, or even despair, to retard their own interests, and the fruits of perseverance and energy. We congratulate them on the improvements already made by the worthy resident in mending "our ways," and clearing the streets of old nuisances; and although the road-mending is not exactly on Mr. McAdam's plan, yet it shews that something is doing for the good of the place.

On Saturday the 23d inst. a meeting was held at the house of Thomas Williamson, Esq. for the purpose of drawing up a memorial to the hon. the Governor in Council, of several necessary improvements to be made in Malacca, and the removal of a few grievances established under the Dutch government. Mr. Williamson being called to the chair, several articles were resolved upon, and the outline of the memorial drawn out.—[*Malacca Observer*, Sept. 29.]

BIRTH.

Sept. 13. The lady of W. G. Mackenzie, Esq., late resident at this settlement, of a son.

Singapore.

AMERICAN TRADE WITH CHINA.

The *Singapore Chronicle* of Nov. 9th, contains a statement of the trade of America with China. The total amount of the trade, being 8,919,562 Spanish dollars, approximates very nearly to that of the preceding year. In that branch of the trade conducted with the South American states, &c. there appears a large increase, that of the present year being Drs. 416,768 which is nearly double what appears in our last statement under the same head. This is a very important circumstance as regards the commercial resources of these states, for we have good reason to know

that shipments to at least an equal amount have been made in the course of the season from Canton, for the same destination, under other flags.

The total amount of the several heads is as follows:—Imports, 7,776,301 Spanish dollars, including 5,725,200 in specie. Exports, viz. to the United States, 7,650,938 Spanish dollars; to Europe, 684,856 Spanish dollars; to South America, Manilla and the Sandwich islands, 416,768 Spanish dollars.

Total Exports .. Sp.Drs. 8,752,562

Total Imports..... 7,776,301

Balance Sp. Drs..... 976,261

The proportion of tea to the articles of export is large: the quantity exported to the United States was 3,957,408 Spanish dollars; to Europe, 509,784 Spanish dollars; to South America, &c., 18,596 Spanish dollars.*

ENTERTAINMENT TO MRS. CRAWFURD.

On the 27th October a ball and supper was given by the European inhabitants of the settlement in honour of Mrs. Crawford, the lady of our late resident, on the occasion of the family's departure for Bengal. The place chosen for the entertainment was the esplanade, where a temporary house was built for the purpose; and notwithstanding the shortness of the period for preparation, it was got up in a style of splendour never before exhibited at this place. The decorations of the apartments were selected and combined with much taste, and the rustic colonnades and arches, entwined with various plants and flowers, and hung with numerous flags, gave the whole house so novel and rural an aspect, that it seemed as if the treasures of some fairy mansion had been transported thither for the purpose. Contrast and variety were studied throughout with much success, and the dancing hall was illuminated with a glory of lights which for variety might have vied with a Siamese palace; and the musical performances of a full Javanese band, which played at intervals during the evening, had a most pleasing effect.—[*Sing. Chron.*, Nov. 9.]

RIGHT OF AMERICANS TO TRADE WITH SINGAPORE.

The American ship *Eliza*, Capt. Grow, touched here lately on her passage from Manilla. This vessel we believe came to this quarter for the purpose of purchasing a cargo at Singapore, if it should be considered safe, after the example of the *Goveynor Endicott* brig, which was seized by H.M.S. *Larne*.—Some doubt, however, appears

* We are not responsible for the errors in the above.—Ed.

appears to exist as to the legality of Americans trading at this port, even now, when it is incorporated as a presidency; and the commander of the *Eliza* being unwilling to run the risk of being seized, declined trading and sailed for Batavia. We trust that if it is not legal for Americans to trade here at present, the subject may attract the attention of the authorities in England, who will no doubt put the port on the same footing in this respect as the neighbouring island of Penang, which enjoys the advantages of a trade with the United States.—[*Ibid.* Nov. 23.

ECLIPSE.

The eclipse of the moon which took place last week having been foretold by the Chinese astrologers, great preparations were made for making a noise upon the occasion, and thus frightening away the monsters who would "eat up the glorious luminary." In this laudable undertaking all classes of natives joined, and with the aid of a few pieces of artillery, accompanied by loud shouting, beating of gongs, drums, &c. an unceasing clamour was kept up during the whole period of the moon's obscurity. The noise was so great that it resembled the din of a battle, and was heard distinctly at the distance of several miles, by some vessels which were approaching the island.—[*Ibid.*

TIN.

Large quantities of tin have lately been imported here from the ports of the peninsula to the north of Malacca, particularly from Sungy Lingi, a small river which forms the boundary between the Malacca territory and the possessions of the Salengore Rajah. The mines of that district are at present wrought with much spirit, and the produce of them this year is very considerable. It is almost all brought to Singapore, and during last week 450 piculs were imported by prahus belonging to the place. The mines are situated about thirty miles up the river, and are all upon the Salengore bank. The Rajah does not interfere much with the operations of the miners, but levies a duty upon all the tin that is exported.

The quality of the Straits tin, generally, has suffered much deterioration lately by the practice of mixing it with other metals, such as Tonquin lead, and spelter, which can be purchased here at a very cheap rate. Some of the shipments to China, in particular, proved so bad this season, that what cost 21 dollars per picul here, was sold for 16 dollars at Canton. The fraud, we believe, is practised chiefly by the Chinese.—[*Ibid.*

STICKLAC.

This article has not been imported by

any of the Siamese junks which have arrived this season. It is said that the supply has entirely failed, and that there is not more collected than is sufficient for the consumption of the country. The price had risen at Bankok to upwards of twenty tikals per picul.—[*Ibid.*

BIRTHS.

Sept. 1. The lady of Lieut. H. Lloyd, 36th regt. N.I., of a son.

Nov. 2. The lady of Capt. C. E. Davis, garrison staff, of a daughter.

DEATH.

Nov. 3. Mrs. Anna Napier, wife of David Skene Napier, Esq., merchant of this settlement.

Mauritius.

SEIZURE OF A PORTUGUESE VESSEL.

By accounts received lately from Mauritius, we learn that a Portuguese ship has been seized by Commodore Christian, the naval commander on that station, for trading contrary to Act of Parliament. The vessel, it appears, had come from Macao with a full cargo, and had obtained permission from the Governor to trade. The cargo was accordingly landed and another cargo purchased, with which the ship was about to depart, when she was seized by the man of war. It is said that the Commodore offered afterwards to release the vessel if the Governor would promise not to admit foreign vessels to trade in future: this was however refused, as the Governor considered that he was fully authorized to grant permission to the vessels of all foreign nations who admitted British vessels at their ports with cargoes from the Mauritius. It was expected at the Mauritius that the vessel will be condemned as a prize.—[*Sing. Chron.* Nov. 9.

Netherlands India.

JAVA.

Retrenchments.—The Commissioner continues to pursue his system of retrenchment. The following offices have been entirely abolished:—administration of finance, water staat, forest, salt, superintendent of the post-office, and roads and bridges; verwisseling kantore (or exchange-office, a place where you might literally be said to whistle for silver in exchange for paper); the superintendent of stamps (as a separate department), and the circuit judges; all master-attendants, except at Batavia, Samarang, Sourabaya and Rhio; the residencies of Buitenzorg and Crawang are incorporated with Batavia; Grissi with Sourabaya, and Bagnio Wangle with Besukie. Great reductions have been

been made in the number and pay of the civilians at the other stations. The clergy have had their allowances reduced 400 f. per month. Orders have been received from Europe to abolish the entrepôts; the commissioner, however, thinking it might be attended with injurious consequences, had communicated with the merchants, through the director of customs, whose very able report had induced his Excellency to suspend the execution of his Majesty's orders until a reply to the reference which had been made can be received. When the entrepôt regulations were promulgated they were hailed as the commencement of a return to liberal principles, although doubts were entertained by many of their stability; these doubts are now but too likely to be speedily realized.

The Dutch Company have got the monopoly of the opium farms in Java and Madura (which have not as usual been exposed for sale) at a lower rate, it is said, than had been offered for them by others. It seems to be the prevailing opinion in Java that they will ere long get a monopoly of the tin, spices, and copper, and every thing else that is worth having. It is doubted whether the sacrifices thus made at the expense of the government, great as the profits which accrue to the Company may be, will counterbalance their losses in those departments of trade where they are exposed to fair and open competition, independent of the heavy expense which all their cumbersome establishments involve; while the expense of governing the country (which will infallibly be greatly augmented for the benefit of the Company) may prove too onerous for the mother country to support.—[*Sing. Chron.*, Nov. 9.

Coronation of the restored Sultan.—Extract of a letter from Batavia, dated 3d October:—"On the 12th ult. the old man was crowned at Salatiga with considerable pomp, General De Kock acting as king-maker, assisted by Messrs. Englehard and Muntinghe. I was present at the ceremony, and much pleased to observe the ease and dignity with which the old Sultan took up his royalty again. Immediately after being proclaimed, he received the congratulations of about sixty or seventy Javanese chiefs; his highness looking all the while majesty itself, and occasionally filling his royal mouth with snuff out of the royal box. The ratie (queen) is a sensible clever woman, and I believe the Dutch calculate on more assistance from her than from the Sultan. The latter having only just arrived at Djocjocarta, it is impossible to say as yet what effect his re-establishment on the throne there will have. I am inclined to think favourably of the measure, and that

the war will shortly be brought to a termination, though the peace of the country may from time to time be a little disturbed by petty insurrections in the remote districts of Banyamas and Brankelan."—[*John Bull*, Nov. 23.

Tax on Official Persons.—Letters from Batavia say that the commissioner-general issued a decree at Tjanjor on the 19th November, announcing that all public officers entitled to certain monthly payments were, from the 1st of Dec. to receive half in ready money, and the rest in bonds, to "be afterwards paid," in order to strengthen the resources of the country, and to afford means to provide for the wants of the army.—*Dutch paper*.

The Insurrection.—The war with the insurgent natives appears to go on more favourably for the Netherlands than heretofore. Gen. Van Geen drove the insurgents from Djatinom on 14th Nov.; they were in great force. The Pangerang Noto Koesomo, who had advanced from Sangung, joined the Netherlands troops in this expedition; in his absence his post was attacked by the insurgents, who were repulsed by the troops of Solo. The notorious Toomoongong Tetjo Negoro, or Ngarpah, died of his wounds received at Djatinom.

The insurgents remain in the district of Minoreh, where they levy contributions. They had abandoned that of Probolinggo on the approach of Col. Cleeren's force, but it appears they returned. A column, under Major Duperron, advanced against them. In the neighbourhood of the Dessa of Goensong Gono the enemy was found posted in considerable force, drawn up in order of battle, and commenced a heavy fire of musketry on the Netherlands troops. The insurgents were in the end routed, with the loss of thirty-eight killed, and the Toomoongong Kerto Negoro mortally wounded. The insurgents again quitted Probolinggo. Dipo Negoro was in the vicinity of Bedoyo at the last advices from Djocjocarta, 28th Nov.

Dutch papers contain extracts from the *Batavia Courant* of the 18th Dec., whence it appears that Mangkoe di Ningrat, an insurgent chief, had made his submission, and that much advantage was expected to result from this example. Some small detachments of the insurgents had appeared near Solo, and Gen. Van Geen had proceeded in that direction.

Persia.

Russian official reports from the Persian frontier state that Prince Madatoff undertook, on the 18th of January, another excursion towards Ahar, and after delivering several

several Nomade families, whom the Persians had carried off from Shirvan and Karabagh, returned on the 26th to the Araxes, without opposition.

advantage of the present unfortunate situation of his adversary.—*Bombay Courier*, Oct. 14.

China.

Accounts from Canton to the 28th October had reached Singapore. According to the last papers, the opium market was very unsettled. Patna had suffered great depression; the quotations are 1,040 drs. per chest. The inferiority of the opium from the 3d and 4th Calcutta sales has alarmed the dealers, and rendered them timid in touching Patna. Benares has been purchased at an advance of 200 drs. per chest on the price given for Patna. Malwa opium was in animated demand at 900 drs. to 920 drs. per chest. Turkey dull at 560 per picul. Too large a supply of Bombay cotton has reduced the prices. Bengal is quoted at 11 to 13 taels per picul; Bombay 9 to 12 taels.

No further intelligence has reached us respecting the political convulsions in the empire, which were adverted to in our last number.

The Persian Gulf.

The war between the Imaum of Muscat and the Sheik of Bushire has been terminated by a skilful stratagem of the former. The Sheik had gone to Mecca on a pilgrimage, and the Imaum, having watched his return, has made him prisoner, and has transferred him to one of his ships of war, which, by the last accounts, was off Kishim. From all we have heard, the quarrel was not political, but a business of gallantry, in which a Persian princess was concerned; and as such, we trust that the Imaum will treat his prisoner with that courtesy which is the grace of knighthood and all honourable men. In fact, from the Imaum's high character for justice and liberality, which is widely known and expressed on the western shores of India, we are assured that he will take no undue

Postscript to Asiatic Intelligence.

Private advices from Ava, dated 4th October, have reached Calcutta, which state that Mr. Crawford had arrived at Ava in the end of September; had been extremely well received; had seen the chief ministers, and that the King had appointed an early day for an audience.

Shortly after the public promulgation of the approaching departure of the British, the Burman deputies waited on Sir A. Campbell, with instructions from the

Viceroy to request that he would not leave the country until they should have assembled a force sufficient to prevent the insurrection of the Taliens, which they were not ready to encounter. There is reason to believe that the payment of the supposed balance of the second instalment was kept back on this account.

A Burman chief was expected at Kimmendine from Ava, to be put in possession of the country.

INDIAN SECURITIES AND EXCHANGES.

Calcutta, Dec. 12, 1826.

Government Securities.

Buy.] Rs. As.						Rs. As. [Sell
Prem.	26	0	Remittable Loan 6 per ct.	25	0	Prem.
Disc.	1	4	Five per ct. Loan	1	12	Disc.
Par.	0	4	New 5 per cent. Loan	0	12	Disc.

Rates of Exchange.

On London, 6 months' sight,—to buy 1s. 10½d. to 1s. 11d.—to sell 2s. per Sicca Rupee.
On Madras, 30 days ditto, 92 to 96 Sicca Rupees per 100 Madras Rupees.
On Bombay, ditto, 96 Sicca Rupees per 100 Bombay Rupees.

Bank Shares.—Prem. 5,300 to 5,400.

Madras, Nov. 15, 1826.

Government Securities.

Six per cent. Bengal Remittable Loan.

At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 350	
Madras Rs., per 335 Sa. Rs.	28½ Prem.
At a Rate prevailing among Merchants	

and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 106½ Madras Rs., per 100 Sa. Rs. 26½ Prem.

Five per cent. Bengal Unremittable Loan.

At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 350 Madras Rs., per 335 Sa. Rs. ½ Prem.

At the Rate prevailing among Merchants and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 106½ Madras Rs., per 100 Sa. Rs. 2½ Disc.

Bombay, Nov. 18, 1826.

A Five per cent. Loan open.

Exchange.

On London, at 6 months' sight, 1s. 9d. per Rupee.
On Calcutta, at 90 days' sight, 102 Bom. Rs. per 100 Sicca Rupees.
On Madras, at 30 days' sight, 99 Bom. Rs. per 100 Madras Rs.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

April 7, 1827.—The General Meeting of the Society was held this day at the usual hour, Sir Alexander Johnston, Knt., Vice-President, in the chair.

The minutes of the Anniversary Meeting, March 15th, were read and confirmed. The following donations were presented:

From Dr. Wallich, of Calcutta, a portrait of Dr. Voysey; from Dr. B. G. Babington, Secretary, the New Testament in Malabar, Madras, 1772; a Burmese MS. in the square Pali character, on two sheets of copper; a Burmese MS. in the round Pali character, on one sheet of palm leaf; a Burmese MS. in the round Pali character; a Coorg knife, presented to Dr. B. by the Raja of Coorg; an Arab jambir, silver mounted; a ditto, common; from M. Klaproth, his *Lettre sur les Hieroglyphes Acrologiques*, Paris, 1827; from M. Junius Faber, his *Synghosse oder grundsätze des Sprachforschung*, Karlsruhe, 1827; from Major M. H. Court, his Relations of the British Government with Palembang, and Remarks on Tithes; from M. Von Hammer, his *Geschichte des Osmanischen Reiches*; from H. Willock, Esq., two works printed in Persia, viz. Hosseineah, A.H. 1239, and Mohret il Keloob, fol. A. H. 1239; from the Society of Arts, Vol. 44 of its *Transactions*.

Thanks were returned to the respective donors.

His Excellency Baron Maltzahn, Prussian ambassador, was elected a Foreign Member. James Alston, Esq. was elected a Resident Member.

The reading of Mr. Colebrooke's Fourth Essay upon the Philosophy of the Hindus was commenced.

The treatise is devoted to a succinct account of the *Brahmá mímánsá*; which is termed *uttara*, or later, in contradistinction to the *Carma-mímánsá*, which is stiled *púrva*, or prior, and which was treated of in a former essay, read before the Society, which will appear in the forthcoming part of the Society's *Transactions*. The later *mímánsá* is an investigation of proofs deducible from the *Védas*, in regard to *theology*, as the former with respect to works and their merit. Together, consequently, they comprise the whole system of interpretation of the precepts and doctrine of the *Védas*, theological and practical. The logic of the two *mímánsás* Mr. C. considers to merit a more full examination than the limits of the present essay would permit; and he, therefore, intends to make it the subject of a future communication.

The meeting then adjourned (in consequence of the Easter holidays) to Saturday, May 5th.

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS, March 30.

Appeals from India.—The Marquess of Lansdown moved for a copy of all appeals sent to this country from the Cape of Good Hope, the Isle of France, Ceylon, the three presidencies in India, Prince of Wales' Island, &c., and of all decisions upon them, with a variety of other documents connected with the subject, from 1800 up to the present time. His Lordship complained of the vast number of appeals from India, remaining not only undecided, but without steps being taken to bring them to a decision. He referred particularly to one from Ramnad, in which the property of a whole district of 1,500 square miles was in a state of jeopardy pending a question on which there was an appeal to this country, yet no proceedings had yet taken place to bring it to a determination. If the evil, he observed, was to be charged on the forma-

tion of the Privy Council here, and its want of local information, that difficulty might be easily removed by procuring the advice of many able individuals who, having filled important situations in India, were now living on pensions in this country, and might act as assessors or counsel if it were thought proper. If the difficulty began at the other end, in India itself, the parties should be put into possession of some mode to have their case set in a course of adjudication. The best means probably would be to call over all the appeals which had not been proceeded in, and to dismiss them altogether; it would release an immense mass of property, which had been kept for twelve or twenty years either locked up or in a most unsettled state.

The Earl of Harrowby agreed with the Noble Marquess that the subject was one which deserved attention. With respect to the appeals sent to the Privy Council, the court knew nothing of any causes,

till they were brought forward in a shape fit for trial. Sending a case from India gave the Privy Council no clue at all. The native counsel knew that unless they appointed an agent to transact the business, and to settle the payment of fees, which went not to individuals but to the public, they did not place the Privy Council in a situation to take any notice whatever of the cases which they had forwarded. There had been no unnecessary delay in the proceedings of that Council, and there were not at present more than four appeals ready for hearing before it. The motion was then agreed to.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA.

Nothing has yet been resolved on respecting the appointment of a Governor General for India. The impediments arising from the state of the ministry, combined with other causes, have, in fact, rendered the period when the determination may take place so extremely uncertain, that a request has, we understand, been sent out to Lord Amherst to delay his relinquishment of office beyond the time which his Lordship originally fixed (we believe the end of the present year), in order that the necessary arrangements for the appointment of his successor may be completed without inconvenience. The coincidence of the three presidencies being vacant at the same time, and the possible injury to the public service from the appointment simultaneously of three individuals new to office, is supposed to have furnished another inducement for postponing the appointment to the chief presidency.—*Times*.

NEW GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

A Court of Directors was held at the East-India House, April 4, when Stephen Rumbold Lushington, Esq. took the usual oath on being appointed Governor of Fort St. George. Mr. Lushington afterwards dined with the Directors at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. There were present several of his Majesty's Ministers and many other distinguished characters.

BOMBAY MARINE.

We understand that it is intended to place the Bombay Marine on a new footing, under the command of a Captain of the Royal Navy, who is to be selected by the Court of Directors. Many officers are candidates for this appointment. Among others, Sir J. Phillimore, Sir B. C. Doyle, and Captains Burrie, Shirreff, and Hart.—*London Paper*.

M. MARTUCCI.

The following appears in a Roman paper:—"We announce with the truest pleasure the return of our fellow-citizen, Onorato Martucci to Rome. He returns to his country, after having travelled for a period of thirty-six years in Asia and in China; in the latter he resided a long time. This learned and indefatigable traveller brings a valuable collection of curiosities of every kind."

MARRIAGES OF ASIATICS WITH RUSSIAN SUBJECTS.

The Emperor of Russia has sanctioned (March 21) the following resolutions of his council respecting marriages contracted by Asiatics with Russian subjects.

Asiatics (except Bucharians) who visit Russia, and contract marriages with Russian subjects, are allowed to return to their own countries, but their wives and children must remain to Russia.

Marriages on the part of Mahometans and others, not Christians, of Asia, with Christian women who are Russian subjects, of the Russo-Greek, or of the Roman Catholic religion, are absolutely prohibited.

If these Asiatics remove beyond the limits of the Russian empire, and with the intention of returning, leave of absence for two years shall be granted them. The local authorities of the place in which they reside must require them, before their departure, to give securities, by which they engage to support their wives and children during their absence. If they do not return to Russia at the expiration of the two years, the marriages they have contracted here are to be considered as dissolved.

Bucharians visiting Russia shall be allowed to marry Russian females, of the Mahometan faith, and to return to Asia with them and their families, if the parents of their wives consent, according to the ninth article of the convention concluded in 1816 with the Bucharian ambassador, Dewan Beg Ainschan Maman-schakow.

NEW BISHOP OF CALCUTTA.

The Rev. J. T. James, M. A. (formerly student of Christ Church, Oxon., and son of the late Dr. James, Prebendary of Worcester), Rector of Flitton, Beds., is appointed Bishop of Calcutta.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, March 24.—The Rev. Mr. Thomason, of Calcutta, is appointed Minister of Trinity Church, Cheltenham.

The Rev. James Edgar is nominated Chaplain at the Cape of Good Hope, in

connection with the Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

Cambridge, March 23. Just Henry Alt, M.A., of Catherine Hall, late professor of Bishop's College, Calcutta, has been elected into the Fourth Grammar Mastership of Christ Hospital.

BURMESE COLLECTION.

Capt. Marryat, R.N. has presented to the Royal Asiatic Society an extensive collection of literary and other curiosities from Ava, made during his command there.

THE LATE BISHOP HEBER.

At a meeting at All Souls College, Oxford, of the personal friends of the late Bishop of Calcutta, assembled to testify by some public act their respect to the memory of one so distinguished in the university of Oxford, so virtuous and amiable in private life, and so strongly devoted to the great cause in which his life was lost; it was resolved, that a subscription should be opened to defray the expense of a monument, to perpetuate those feelings of admiration and esteem towards him, known to prevail in the kingdom at large, and to transmit to posterity a record of his eminent services in the propagation of christianity in India.

MUTINY ON BOARD AN INDIAMAN.

We have seen the full particulars of the mutiny on board the *Sarah*, free-trader, bound to Bombay (referred to in p. 589), given by an officer in the Company's army, who was a passenger. It appears that the boatswain having made use of highly insubordinate and insolent language, was put in irons, and, agreeably to the unanimous opinion of the officers and passengers of the ship, Capt. Tucker determined to flog him. The crew threatened a rescue, and the passengers came armed on deck to support the captain's authority. On the first lash being inflicted, the crew made a rush towards the officers and passengers. Captain Tucker drew a line, and warned the crew not to pass it on pain of being fired upon. The men, however, passed the line, became decidedly mutinous, disregarded firing over their heads, and at length assaulted the passengers; when several pistols were fired, by which one man was killed and three others wounded. This took place on the 12th Nov. The ship then stood for Rio Janeiro, where the British naval commander furnished a guard of marines to accompany the ship to Bombay.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

At the annual election at the East In-

dia House, 11th April 1827, the following Directors went out of office by rotation: Henry Alexander, Esq. M.P.; Wm. Stanley Clarke, Esq.; Rich. Chicheley Plowden, Esq.; George Raikes, Esq.; Sir Geo. Abercrombie Robinson, Bart.; and John Thornhill, Esq. Their places were supplied by the following gentlemen: Geo. Smith, Esq. M.P.; Sweny Toone, Esq.; Wm. Astell, Esq. M.P.; Campbell Marjoribanks, Esq.; Chas. Elton Prescott, Esq.; and John Masterman, Esq. The Hon. Hugh Lindsay, M.P., was elected Chairman, and James Pattison, Esq. Deputy Chairman, for the year ensuing.

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES IN THE BRITISH ARMY

(SERVING IN THE EAST).

4th L.Dr. T. Lloyd to be corn. by purch., v. Henley app. to 5th Dr. Gu. (15 Mar.)

11th L.Dr. Lieut. E. Arnold, from h.p. 1st Dr., to be lieut., v. Maxwell dec. (29 Mar.)

16th L.Dr. E. H. Donnlthorne to be corn. by purch., v. Blood prom. (22 Mar.); Corn. C. Cotton to be lieut. by purch., v. J. Douglass prom. (29 Mar.); Lieut. J. Vincent to be adj., v. Hilton who resigns adjtcy. only (16 June 26).

1st Foot. Lieut. N. Maclean to be capt., v. Wetherall prom. (29 Mar.)

3d Foot. Lieut. T. Chatterton, from h.p. 66th F., to be lieut., v. G. H. Moore, who exch. (15 Mar.)

6th Foot. Ens. G. A. Malcolm, from h.p., to be ens., v. Shaw, app. to 5th F. (21 Mar.)

13th Foot. Ens. H. Moorhouse to be lieut. by purch., v. Blood prom., and Z. Edwards to be ens., v. Hayes dec. (both 22 Mar.)

20th Foot. Maj. J. S. Simcocks, from 5th F., to be maj., v. Barrington, who exch. (23 Mar.)

40th Foot. Capt. E. S. Boscawen, from h.p., to be capt., v. Elliott prom. (29 Mar.)

45th Foot. Assist. surg. J. Campbell, from 30th F., to be assist. surg., v. Tower dec. (15 Mar.); Capt. J. Cole to be maj., v. Stappole dec. (26 June 26); Lieut. J. Reid to be capt. by purch., v. Cole (26 do.); Capt. E. C. Archer, from h.p., to be capt., v. J. Grant, who exch. (29 Mar. 27); Ens. E. W. Lascelles to be lieut., v. Forbes dec. (18 May 26); J. P. Meik to be ens. by purch., v. Armstrong who res. (26 June 26).

48th Foot. Ens. T. Edgar, from 56th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Roberts prom. (22 Mar.)

54th Foot. Lieut. J. Lawless to be capt., v. Evanson dec.; and Ens. G. Mann to be lieut., v. Lawless (both 15 Mar.); E. Wheatstone to be ens., v. Man prom. (22 Mar.); Assist. surg. R. Russell, from 1st F., to be assist. surg., v. Macdonald who res. (29 Mar.)

59th Foot. Ens. W. Jesse to be lieut., v. M. C. Pitman dead of his wounds (23 Feb. 26).

78th Foot. Hosp. Assist. A. Wood to be assist. surg., v. Duncan dec. (19 Nov. 26).

87th Foot. J. Ralph to be ens., v. Herbert prom. (1 Jan. 26); Lieut. J. Kennelly to be capt., v. C. L. Bell, prom. in 41st F. (29 Mar.); Ens. T. M. Creagh to be lieut., v. Masterson prom. (6 Mar. 26); Ens. C. F. M'Mahon from 2d F., to be ens., v. Creagh (6 do.)

Ceylon Regt. Lieut. G. A. Tranchell to be capt., v. Driberg dec. (9 Oct. 26); 2d-Lieut. R. Jefferson to be 1st-lieut., v. Woodward dec. (1 Sept. 26); Lieut. O. Delancy, from h.p., to be 1st-lieut., v. Nason, whose app. has not taken place (29 Mar. 27); Ens. W. J. M'Carthy, from h.p. 40th F., to be 2d-lieut., v. E. A. Turnour, who exch. (29 do.)

East-India Volunteers. S. J. Smith to be ens. (24 Mar.)

DEBATE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

East-India House, March 21.

(Continued from page 582.)

BURNING OF HINDOO WIDOWS.

The *Chairman* observed, that the next subject for discussion had been proposed by an hon. proprietor (Mr. Poynder) whom he saw in his place. He then directed the motion to be read, as follows :—

“ That this Court, taking into consideration the continuance of human sacrifices in India, is of opinion that, in the case of all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life, it is the duty of a paternal government to interpose for their prevention; and therefore recommends to the hon. Court of Directors to transmit such instructions to India as that Court may deem most expedient for accomplishing this object, consistent with all practicable attention to the feelings of the natives.”

Mr. Poynder said, he hoped he would be acquitted of all idea of presumption, in offering himself to the court, on a subject of a nature so difficult and delicate as the present, when he assured the proprietors, that it was not from any fault of his own that the question had not been placed in much abler hands. He spoke in the presence of some gentlemen, who knew that he was not forward in introducing the subject of this discussion to the court. Much rather would he have acted in a very subordinate capacity on this occasion, than that in which he appeared. It had, however, so happened, that one friend who was deeply interested in this question had been removed by death, and another was employed on a distant service; thus it was that the subject happened to be committed to his unworthy and inadequate abilities. Under these circumstances, he threw himself on the indulgence of the court; and he felt that he should be obliged most earnestly to request that indulgence, because, to bring the subject before the court with any chance of success, he would be obliged to refer to such voluminous documents, as would render the subject less interesting than it otherwise would be. He should take the liberty, in the outset, of adverting to an observation, relative to this question, which had been laid before the public some years since, when a gentleman in the Company's service brought before them a statement relative to the burning of an aged female near Calcutta. There was nothing very remarkable or out of the common course in this transaction: but it was asked, in a pamphlet written at the time, who were guilty of the blood of this woman? The government abroad answered, that they were not to blame, as they had received no orders from the Court of Directors on the

subject; and it was ultimately agreed that the proprietors, who must have heard of those suttees, were censurable, inasmuch as they sanctioned all the proceedings of the Court of Directors, and they had not instructed that body to send out orders for the purpose of checking the system. Now he, as a proprietor, was not disposed to plead guilty to this charge of inadvertence or neglect; because at that time they were not in possession of the information which they had since received; they had then nothing official before them. That time had, however, passed away; and six sets of parliamentary papers on this subject were now laid before them. From these documents he had made extracts, in order that he might not occupy unnecessarily any portion of their time. The first four documents contained full details of the annual returns presented to the Indian governments, and transmitted to the Court of Directors on this subject, from 1815 to 1823. The fifth number contained exclusively an account of infanticides; and the sixth was a summary of the number of widows burned from 1815 to 1823 inclusive. Though that document was last in order, he would advert to it in the first instance. From this return it appeared, that in 1815, 378 widows were sacrificed on the funeral piles of their husbands, in the presidency of Bengal; in 1816, 442; in 1817, 707; in 1818, 839; in 1819, 650; in 1820, 597; in 1821, 654; in 1822, 583; in 1823, 575; making a gross total, in nine years, of 5,425 individuals who had thus perished; and taking into the account those who had been burned at Fort St. George and Bombay, the number would be nearly 6,000. The children, of various ages, who were left in an orphan and destitute state, in consequence of these sacrifices, in Bengal alone, amounted in these nine years to 5,128. In arguing this question there were two positions, to establish which all his observations would be directed; and which, for the greater clearness, he would state in the outset of his remarks. The first point he should seek to prove was, that enough had not been done by the government, abroad or at home, on this important question; the second point was, that more might now be done with perfect safety to the government of India. He begged gentlemen, so far as it was practicable, to bear these two points in their recollection; because it was only as he might be found to establish these propositions, that he would feel himself entitled to call on any individual for his vote. The hon. gent. then proceeded to read the accounts

of many suttees from the parliamentary papers.* The first was contained in a letter from the resident at Poona, which stated that a widow possessed of 2,000 rupees and a number of jewels, which were given to the Brahmins (a circumstance that perhaps would account for their anxiety on the occasion) was led to the funeral pile. She approached it with her hands clasped, and her eyes raised to heaven. She stopped for a while, then ascended the pile, and laid herself down by her deceased husband. The victim was immediately covered from view by bundles of straw. Some of the persons present rent the air with loud "hurrahs," whilst others rushed forward to apply the flaming torch to the pile. Such a sacrifice as this must remind every one (said Mr. Poynder) of those rites described by Milton as being paid to Moloch of old :—

"First Moloch, horrid king, besmeared with blood
Of human sacrifice, and parents' tears :
Though, for the noise of drums and timbrels loud,
The children's cries unheard, that passed through
To his grim idol." [fire]

The case to which he had just referred was, he believed, before the government in 1817. The next case to which he called the attention of the court was one which was attended with circumstances of violence, and which ought therefore to have been prevented. The hon. proprietor proceeded to detail a variety of instances in which females were sacrificed in the most cruel manner, while their friends and relatives looked on with the most shocking indifference. He knew it was impossible for gentlemen not to feel the deepest disgust at these details : still it was necessary that he should enter into them ; and he called on the court to recollect the excellent maxim of Mr. Fox, that "true humanity consists not in a squeamish ear, but in listening to sufferings, for the purpose of relieving them." The chief point to which he wished to direct the attention of the court in this part of his observations was, that enough had not been done by the Indian government, or by the executive at home for the abolition of these suttees. He would, in the second branch of his remarks, be able to shew that much might be done towards that object—that in fact the practice might be altogether abolished, without any detriment to the Company's interests in India. He would first call the attention of the court to what had taken place in 1805, under the government of the Marquess Wellesley. In February of that year, it was discussed by the Governor-General in council (there being present, as members of the council, Lord Lake, Sir George Barnwall, and Mr. Udney),

how far it might be proper to check the custom of sacrificing Hindoo widows. As the result of that discussion, a proclamation was issued by the Governor-General, in which it was stated to be the intention of government to consult even the prejudices of the natives in their religious opinions, as far as they were consistent with humanity and morality. It was added, that it was desirable to ascertain how far the suttees could be abolished altogether, provided they did not form an essential part of the religion of the country ; but if it appeared that they did form an essential part of the religion under some circumstances, they were to be permitted only in those circumstances, and that the abuse of them was in all cases to be abolished. The principle, of the noble Lord's letter was that of the immortal Locke, who observed that every religion ought to receive free toleration, where its practice was not inconsistent with morality. Upon this principle the government continued to act for several years, taking care that the practice of suttee should be restricted as much as possible by throwing every objection in its way without directly decreeing its abolition. Lord Wellesley, with a view of ascertaining how far even that might be done, took the opinions of several learned pundits, as to the question whether or not suttee was enjoined as a religious duty by the Shaster. These pundits, who were of different castes, all concurred in the opinion that the practice was no where enjoined, but that it was permitted, and deemed meritorious. There were, however, certain cases in which even the Shaster considered the practice unlawful ; but in no part was it deemed indispensably necessary to the happiness of the wife in a future state. In support of this, the opinion of Menu was quoted, who held that a virtuous wife, who lived in the practice of moral conduct after the death of her husband, would thereby be deemed worthy to ascend and join him in heaven. The government after this, finding that it was not enjoined as a religious duty, but only permitted as a meritorious action, though unwilling to go the whole length of decreeing its abolition, felt it necessary to throw every impediment in its way ; and in some cases it was totally prohibited, as those of non-age or the pregnancy of the widow ; and in every case the act must be voluntary on the widow's part, otherwise the parties using force would be liable to the severest punishment. This principle continued to direct the policy of our Indian government until the year 1812 ; in the September of that year a memorial was addressed to government on the subject ; Lord Minto being then president, and Sir George Hewitt, Mr. Lumsden, and others being members of the council—in fact, of all the members

* These details were so exceedingly voluminous, that we have not space for their publication ; we have therefore only given an abstract of them.

of the council of 1805, not one then remained in authority. Lord Minto published a declaration, in which it was stated, that every toleration would be given to the religion of the natives, but he omitted the important provision of the proclamation of Lord Wellesley, that it should not be inconsistent with humanity or morality. The only thing done was to adopt the former regulation, that it should not be allowed in case of non-age and pregnancy. A hope was expressed in the time of Lord Wellesley, that it might be abolished within a reasonable time: what might be considered a reasonable time he (Mr. Poynder) was not prepared to state, but more than twenty years had now elapsed, and still the practice was in existence. The learned proprietor then proceeded to quote several documents, for the purpose of proving that very little of what might have been done had been done for its abolition. Amongst other things he read an extract from the opinions of Sir Wm. Jones, in which it was stated, that little reliance could be placed upon the opinions of the pundits, in any matter in which their own interest was in any degree affected; that they differed among themselves as to what was the law, and gave out their own interpretation of it just as they pleased. From the documents which he had read to the court, it would appear that no penalties were imposed to enforce even such prohibitions as did exist, and that infractions of those prohibitions were made daily with impunity. The measures that were taken were principally entrusted to the native police, but there was in most instances such a difficulty of getting information as to the suttees, that the police were seldom aware of them in sufficient time for their prevention. The learned gentleman then proceeded to read other documents describing the regulations made by government with respect to suttees, and contended that, so far from those regulations tending to prevent, they were directly calculated to encourage the horrid practice. The police it was said were required to attend; but so far from this shewing any discouragement, it gave to the whole ceremony the apparent sanction of the government. The exceptions, too, made by government in certain cases, were taken as an admission of the general principle. He would read for the court the opinions of several magistrates, and others in authority in India, who had abundant opportunities of information on the subject, to shew that all our exertions would be insufficient to put an end to the practice, unless its abolition were positively decreed by the government. Any interference short of this, any half measures, would be found wholly inefficient. From the letters of Mr. Ward, of a gentleman who had been long a chaplain in

the service (long extracts from which were read by the hon. gentleman), it appeared that all the efforts of amiable and benevolent individuals, to put an end to this practice by kind and persuasive means, were, and would continue to be altogether frustrated by the conduct of government. Many attempts of this kind were met by the remark, "your government sanctions it; we act under the authority of a license from the local magistrate, and against that license you have no authority to act."

Here again the learned gentleman read a vast number of extracts, to shew the dreadful extent to which these practices were carried, and that in many cases, so far from the suttee being a voluntary act of the widow, it was the result of the most barbarous force. He added, that were he to lay before the court the many cases contained in the returns, he

"Could a tale unfold, whose lightest word
Would harrow up the soul!"

There were, however, some cases, the notice of which he could not altogether omit. [The hon. proprietor again referred to the documents before the court, long extracts from which he read, but with such rapidity, that some of the cases we lost altogether, and of others we are only able to give a mere outline.] A case occurred at Nagpore, of a widow not fifteen years old, who was persuaded to sacrifice herself on the funeral pile of her deceased husband. The young creature laid herself upon it with much agitation, but no sooner had the flames touched her body than she burst from them, and endeavoured to make her escape; she was pursued by her relations and brought back, and was induced, partly by threats partly by persuasion, once more to mount the fatal pile, where she was no sooner placed, than huge logs of wood were heaped upon her in order to keep her down; again, however, she threw herself from the flames and sought her safety in flight. She threw herself into an adjacent stream; she was followed by her uncle, to whose intreaties that she might return she gave a most earnest negative; she said the act was wholly forced, that she had no wish to sacrifice herself, and she most earnestly implored that she might be allowed to live; adding, that she would beg for the remainder of her life to prevent her becoming a dependent on her friends. While she thus spoke she appeared to suffer the extreme of agony, as well from the wounds which the fire inflicted, as from the fear that her relations would oblige her to finish the dreadful sacrifice. Her uncle now spread a large cloth on the ground, told her to place herself upon it, and that she should be conveyed back to her friends. She at first appeared to doubt the sincerity of this proposition and refused to go, but her uncle swore by the Ganges that no

injury should be done to her, and that as soon as she placed herself on the cloth she should be carried home. Relying on this solemn assurance, the unhappy creature did place herself on the cloth: but no sooner had she seated herself, than it was quickly rolled and tied round her, and thus bound up, she was again cast into the flames. Once more, however, she tried to escape, and had succeeded in releasing herself from the pile, when her uncle approached her, and in a savage fury struck her on the head with his sword, and in a moment put an end to her sufferings; the body was then thrown back on the pile and consumed. There could be no doubt that this was a case of deliberate murder.— (*Hear, hear, hear!*) It was clearly against the consent of the unfortunate woman; and the parties thus instrumental to her death were, according to the existing law of India, guilty of murder. Five of them were tried for that offence, but though the judge who presided had declared it to be decidedly murder, they were only sentenced as for a homicide; one of them was sentenced to five years' hard labour; another to three years' imprisonment, and the others to one year's imprisonment without hard labour. The ground on which this mitigated punishment was awarded was, that every allowance was to be made for the superstitions of the natives. In 1821 another case occurred, in which a woman jumped off the pile, and positively refused again to place herself upon; she was, however, thrown back, logs heaped upon her, and thus forcibly pressed down, she was burned to ashes: for this, one or two of the parties concerned were tried, and though the facts were distinctly proved and admitted on all hands, the men were acquitted, on the ground that their intention was not to commit murder, but to observe a religious ceremony. There were also cases tried of members of the Rajpoots, who were proved to have burned some of their own caste alive, but no conviction took place, on similar grounds. In another case, four widows out of twenty-one belonging to the same deceased Brahmin were burned, and no inquiry whatever made on the subject, though it was believed that some of them were burned without their consent. [The learned gentleman then went through a variety of other cases of suttees, in some of which the women did not exceed the age of nine years, in others eleven; in other cases the son lit the pile where his mother was to be consumed.] All these cases had been allowed to go without inquiry, or the result of the inquiry had been the acquittal of the parties. He begged to observe, that many of the cases to which he referred came down as late as the summer of 1826: but these later ones rested on the authority of private informa-

tion; the cases in the official communications did not come down lower than 1823. One of those he could not avoid mentioning: it was that of the widow of a Brahmin eleven years and eight months old, in whose behalf application was made to the local magistrate to grant the license for the suttee. The gentleman happened to be going to dinner at the time, and without making the proper inquiries, he granted the license, the woman was burned, and it afterwards appeared that the sacrifice had been altogether involuntary on her part. In the explanation of his conduct, the magistrate gave rather a curious reason for giving his consent: he said he had understood that the woman had remained so long abstinent from food (as was usual on those occasions), that he was afraid she would be starved to death; so that, in fact, to prevent her being starved to death, he gave his consent that she should be burned alive. In another case, in the papers before the court, mention was made of a young man who was tried for having put his mother-in-law to death by having buried her alive. The circumstance of his superstition being taken into consideration, the only result of the trial was his acquittal and dismissal, with a caution not to do the same thing again; by which he (Mr. Poynder) supposed was meant that he should not again bury his mother-in-law alive. (*Hear, hear!*) After citing several other cases, Mr. Poynder called the attention of the court to a memorial which had been presented to the Indian government, calling its attention to the frequency of those suttees, and the means which might be adopted for their suppression. To that memorial the government paid no attention, or rather only such attention as was calculated to discourage the exertions of its officers for the abolition of the practice. He then called the attention of the court to the case of a widow who was under age, whose husband had died under age, and between whom the marriage had never been consummated; yet in this case no inquiry had been instituted, though it was decidedly opposed to the regulations which the government had laid down. A case was mentioned in the *Bombay Courier* in June 1823, which he thought deserved the particular attention of the court: it was that of a woman who consented to place herself on the pile of her deceased husband; as the fire approached her but very slowly her resolution began to fail, and when at length it began to affect her body, she threw herself from it, and by the assistance of an English gentleman who was present, was enabled to get into the river Ganges. Being in some slight degree relieved by immersion in the cold stream, she declared that she had no objection to offer herself as a sacrifice, but

that

that the fire was too slow, and she was unwilling to endure the protracted torture; but added, that if the fire were so arranged as to put an end speedily to her sufferings, she would place herself again speedily upon it. The fire was quickened, and in a few moments the flames burst forth with great fury, so much so that she became alarmed as she approached, her courage again failed, and she refused to advance. Her friends, who should have attended to her wish in this respect, immediately surrounded her, and seizing her by the head and heels, cast her with violence upon the burning heap; again, however, she escaped, and, unassisted by any person, once more plunged into the river. Thither she was followed by her relations, who endeavoured to deprive her of life by holding her down under the water; by her great struggles she released herself from their hands, came again on dry land, and throwing herself into the arms of a gentleman present, implored for mercy and protection. The appearance which she presented at this moment was too terrible for description: the skin hung in loose pieces, black and almost detached, from every part of her body; the flesh was burned from her legs, thighs, and arms. Altogether her appearance presented a spectacle which human nature could not contemplate without horror. The unfortunate victim was then removed to an hospital, where, after lingering for twenty hours in indescribable torture, death put a period to her misery. Now for this gross outrage upon the laws of humanity, and the laws of the country, and of God and nature, no punishment had been inflicted. Now what he contended for was, that if the Indian government exercised that authority with which it was invested by the executive at home, prompt and decisive measures would have been taken to inflict just punishment, in all cases where it appeared that violence had been used to enforce that barbarous practice. It was clear that the Shaster in no place enjoined the suttee as a duty, though it spoke of its performance as a meritorious act. From the manner in which the doctrines of the Shaster were expounded by the Pundits and Brahmins the people in some places were led to view the observations of the Shaster in the light of positive commands, and he (Mr. Poynder) regretted that the Indian government had done very little to enlighten them on this subject. The government at home, he thought, was also somewhat to blame for not interfering in this matter. As a proof of this, he begged to read an extract of a letter from the Court of Directors (Judicial Department) to the Governor-General in Council, dated June 1823.

The *Chairman* suggested that it might

be as well to have the whole of the letter read. The letter was then read by the officer of the court, as follows:

"We have had before us your proceedings, with the various documents recorded and referred to in your consultations of the 30th of July 1819, relating to suttees. You are aware that the attention of Parliament and the public has lately been called to this subject. We are disposed to give you a large discretion in regard to the prevention of suttee, because we are persuaded that no general rule can be laid down with either safety or efficiency; and that the adaptation of particular measures to local peculiarities can only be effected by the Indian governments.

"After an attentive consideration of all that has been lately received from the several presidencies on this subject, and the various opinions concerning suttee which have been received from the public officers, it appears that the practice varies very much in different parts of India, both as to the extent to which it prevails and the enthusiasm by which it is upheld. The necessity, therefore, as well as the policy and probable effect of strong measures of repression, must vary with the varying circumstances of the district.

"The line of distinction which you have drawn in the Circular Orders of 1817, between the different cases of suttee, proceeds upon a more general principle.

"It is undoubtedly the policy of our Government to abstain from interference with the religious opinions and prejudices of the natives; and it is therefore upon an intelligible ground that you have adopted the rule which permits the sacrifice, when it is clearly voluntary and conformable to the Hindoo religion, and authoritatively prevents it in all other cases.

"To us, however, it appears very doubtful (and we are confirmed in this doubt by respectable authority) whether the measures which have been already taken in pursuance of this principle, have not tended rather to increase than diminish the frequency of the practice. Such a tendency is at least not unnaturally ascribed to a regulation which, prohibiting a practice only in certain cases, appears to sanction it in all others; and it is to be apprehended that where the people have not previously a very enthusiastic attachment to the custom, a law which shall explain to them the cases in which it ought not to be followed, may be taken as a direction for adopting it in all others. Indeed, in a district where the practice, if ever known, has fallen into disuse, any public mention of it whatever would appear impolitic, although it would be highly desirable to resist any attempt to revive it.

"It is moreover with much reluctance that we can consent to make the British Government, by a specific permission of the suttee, an ostensible party to the sacrifice; we are averse also to the practice of making British courts expounders and vindicators of the Hindoo religion, when it leads to acts, which, not less as legislators than as Christians, we abominate.

"This reasoning we will at present push no farther than to enjoin you, for this as well as for other considerations, to interfere as little as possible. We will not forbid you to act upon the regulation to which we have referred, if you really find that its application diminishes the evil. We wish, however, that neither this plan of discriminating and qualified permission, nor any plan of repression, should be positively and generally prescribed to the magistrates; there should in no case be more than a license, to be used according to the discretion of those who are acquainted with local circumstances. In a matter so delicate, the same regulation may be safe or wise, or dangerous and impolitic, according to the character of the officer by whom it is to be executed. We know of instances in which a magistrate, having acquired by praiseworthy methods an influence among the natives, has been readily obeyed in a positive prohibition of the sacrifice of a widow. It may be true that where this occurred the prejudice was not deeply rooted, but still, much was unquestionably owing to the judicious conduct and experience of the magistrate; and an attempt to imitate him by a person not possessing the same qualifications, might be more than unsuccessful.

"Instances of this nature therefore would not warrant us to authorize a general prohibition; but connected

connected with the opinions expressed by many intelligent men, that the practice of suttee is not a tenet of religion to which the people are enthusiastically attached, but rather an abuse fostered by interested priests or relations: those instances of partial success do lead us to regard the notion of prohibition (modified according to circumstances) of this barbarous custom with rather less of apprehension than it has generally produced. We say this without hesitation, because we are not at all afraid that you will act imprudently upon our declaration. You will take it as it is meant, for an encouragement to you seriously to consider the subject, and an assurance of our disposition to co-operate in such measures, as your superior means of estimating consequences may suggest to you. Assuredly the most acceptable form of success would be that which could be brought about by such an increase of intelligence among the people, as should show them the wickedness and absurdity of the practice; next to this, we should rejoice to see the abolition effected by influence, and the co-operation of the higher order of natives.

"It is hardly necessary to add, that measures for protecting the females from violence, and punishing those who administer intoxicating drugs, will have our approbation."

Mr. Poynder now requested that a letter of Lord Amherst to the Directors, dated the 3d December 1824, and contained in vol. iv. page 6, of the papers before the court, should be read. The document was read by the clerk accordingly, as follows:—

"Honourable Sirs: We have the honour to transmit to your Honourable Court an extract from our proceedings, containing the reports of suttees for the years 1822 and 1823, received from the Court of Nizamut Adawlut, together with various other documents connected with the same subject; and a copy of the resolutions which we have this day passed on an anxious consideration of the important question which they involve.

"We take the present opportunity of acknowledging your Honourable Court's letter upon this subject, under date the 17th of June 1823, and of expressing the gratification which we have derived from the confidence reposed in us by your Honourable Court, in leaving to our discretion the adoption or suspension of measures directed to the abolition of the barbarous practice of suttee.

"We entirely participate with your Honourable Court in the feelings of detestation with which you view the rite, and in your earnest desire to have it suppressed; and we beg to assure you that nothing but the apprehension of evils infinitely greater than those arising from the existence of the practice, could induce us to tolerate it for a single day.

"Although, as is remarked by your Honourable Court, the practice varies very much in different parts of the country, both as to the extent to which it prevails, and the enthusiasm by which it is upheld, yet it cannot be doubted but that it is sufficiently general to have a strong hold on the feelings of the native population throughout the greater part of our possessions.

"In fact, the whole difficulty of the question consists in determining the amount of the influence of this fanatical spirit, and it is only upon a sober and careful consideration of the native modes of thinking upon this subject, that any safe attempt at legislation can be founded.

"The difficulty of arriving at any sound practical conclusions, in legislating on subjects connected with religious prejudice, is sufficiently obvious in any country; and the peculiar disadvantages under which your servants here must conduct their inquiries on such subjects, have been so frequently and so clearly stated, that it seems unnecessary to repeat them in this place.

"We have reason however to believe, that in the eyes of the natives, the great redeeming point in our government, the circumstance which reconciles them above all others to the manifest inconveniences of foreign rule, is the scrupulous regard we have paid to their customs and prejudices. It would be with extreme reluctance that we adopted any measures tending to unsettle the confidence thus reposed in us. In native opi-

nion, the voluntary nature of the act of suttee diminishes the right of the Government to interfere, and it must be remembered that the safety and expediency of suppressing the practice must be judged by reference chiefly to native, and not to European habits of thinking.

"Were we to be guided by the sentiments which we happen to know exist generally among the higher classes of natives, at the place most favourable for ascertaining their real sentiments (we mean the presidency), we should indeed almost despair of ever seeing the suppression of the practice. The well-meant and zealous attempts of Europeans to dissuade from, and to discourage the performance of the rite, would appear to have been almost uniformly unsuccessful, and prove but too strongly, that even the best informed classes of the Hindoo population are not yet sufficiently enlightened to recognize the propriety of abolishing the rite.

"Your Honourable Court will be gratified by perceiving from the returns now submitted, that in the interior of the country the practice has been slowly, but gradually decreasing.

"These statements do not promise the early cessation of the practice, under the operation of existing causes; but we shall anxiously look to the future returns to ascertain if they exhibit a continued diminution.

"We do not affect to conceal that such a result would be peculiarly acceptable to us. The whole course of our proceedings has been in conformity with the principle enjoined by your Honourable Court, to interfere as little as possible; and in a subject so beset with difficulty, and in which the risk of advancing appears to us so considerable, it would be gratifying to find that the safest and most moderate course was also likely to prove an effectual one.

"For the reasons assigned in our resolutions of this date, we are decidedly of opinion, that the adoption of any new measures of importance is particularly inexpedient at the present moment, and we hope that the additional information obtained may eventually enable us to proceed with more confidence.

"Your Honourable Court have been already apprized of the plans for the encouragement of native education recently adopted under the orders of Government. These measures depend in no small degree for success on the scrupulous exclusion of all religious subjects; and it would be injudicious to render our first interference with a religious rite simultaneous with the introduction of a system of general education.

"We entirely concur with your Honourable Court, in considering that success arising from increased intelligence among the people (which can be effected, we conceive, only by improved education), would be the most acceptable form in which the cessation of the practice could be exhibited.

"In the mean time, your Honourable Court will remark, that we have been preparing, should we deem it expedient at a favourable moment, to adopt in particular places those measures of partial prevention which you have recommended to our consideration.

"Something we hope has been effected. We have safely and quietly ascertained the extent of the practice, and have guarded against violence being offered to the victims of it; and considering that the practice is the growth of many hundreds of years, and that it was disregarded by ourselves for the first half-century during which we held the government of the country, we think the progress made in nine years, in a matter of such extreme delicacy, is not altogether unsatisfactory.

"We do not wish to pledge ourselves for the future, even by sketching any specific plan for the approbation of your Honourable Court. We hope we have satisfied your Honourable Court that we anxiously desire to see the abolition of the practice—that reasonable doubts may be entertained of the safety of suppressing it—that the present moment is particularly unsuitable to such an attempt—that something has been effected by us—that the subject continues to receive its full share of our attention, and that we shall keep our minds open to avail ourselves of favourable circumstances, or useful information. Further than this we are not at present prepared to go, and we have the gratification to believe that these sentiments

timents are conformable to those expressed in the despatch of your Honourable Court to which we are replying.

(Signed) "AMHERST,
"EDW. PAGETT,
"JOHN FENDALL."

"Fort-William, Dec. 3, 1824."

Mr. Poynder then went on to observe, that the letter was in some respects by no means satisfactory, and that the letter of the Court of Directors, to which it was an answer, by no means gave that latitude of which Lord Amherst's communication mentioned.

The *Chairman* observed that he differed from the hon. member, and read that passage of the letter from the Court of Directors, in which a large discretion was allowed to the Indian government, because no general rule could be laid down.

Mr. Poynder said, he was unwilling to reply to the court; but, with the utmost deference for the opinion of the Chair, he must retain the opinion he had already formed; he then went on to observe, that the letter was unsatisfactory in other respects, as it did not shew that any reasonable hope could be entertained of any speedy suppression of this abominable practice. He would now come to the second head of his argument, and be able to shew, from the opinions of several magistrates, judges, and other officers belonging to the Company, that the complete abolition of the practice was perfectly attainable without the slightest injury to the interests of the Company in India. In support of this opinion, he read a variety of extracts from documents which had been laid before Parliament, and were then before that court. From these it appeared, that in many cases suttee was prevented by the positive refusal of the magistrates to grant the license; in others, by persuasion; in some, by open force, and in others, again, by the influence which the character of the local magistrates had upon the natives. But in all these cases, the suttee was prevented without any commotion amongst the people, or any thing like a disposition to adhere to their native customs, in defiance of the authority of government. In one instance it was prevented by the prudence of a magistrate, who, before he would grant the license for the suttee, required that the woman should burn off her finger by way of experiment, which having tried, she was disposed to go no further, and contented herself with that sacrifice to the memory of her deceased husband. In another instance the destruction of the woman had been prevented by the timely and spirited interference of two English ladies, who had succeeded in driving the Brahmins away, and rescuing their intended victim. The learned proprietor then went on to shew, from the opinions of several local magistrates, which he read

to the court, that this practice was by no means general, nor was it so deeply rooted in the prejudices of the people as not to be eradicated provided the proper means were adopted. Taking the population, which was much below the fact, under our government in India at fifty millions of souls, and the annual deaths at one in thirty-three, the number of men who died annually leaving widows could not be taken at much less than 250,000: yet out of this immense number it no where appeared that the number of suttees in any year exceeded six hundred. The learned gentleman was proceeding, when

Mr. R. Jackson rose to order. It was not, he assured the hon. and learned gentleman, from any wish to restrict him in the course of his remarks that he now addressed the court, but on a subject of such grave and serious importance it was absolutely necessary that they should have the fullest time for its discussion. After the great and valuable body of evidence which the learned gentleman had collected on this subject, and as it was likely that he still might have many other documents to submit to the Court, he thought that the fullest time should be allowed him to conclude his remarks; he therefore suggested that the discussion should be adjourned to a future day. This was a question to which the attention of Parliament would in a short time be called; and before any parliamentary investigation, it might be important to have the opinion of that court upon the subject. Another reason for wishing to postpone the further discussion of the question was, that there had been four volumes of papers submitted to the court upon the subject, and he would venture to say that not one proprietor in a hundred had yet been able to make himself acquainted with even a small portion of their contents.

Colonel Stanhope suggested that it might be better to allow Mr. Poynder to proceed; that it was probable he might be able to conclude in a quarter of an hour.

The *Chairman* said he believed the gallant colonel would find himself much mistaken in such a calculation; and added, that it might be as well to adjourn the court till to-morrow, or to adjourn this discussion for the present, and go on with the other matters which stood before the court.

Mr. R. Jackson said that there was a vote of thanks to Mr. Bosanquet, and that he, for one, could not consent to its discussion in so thin a court. That hon. gentleman deserved that the subject should be introduced in as full a court as possible.

After a few observations from Col. Stanhope, and one or two other proprietors, it was at length agreed that the court should be adjourned to Wednesday next, that the discussion of this question should

should be resumed the first thing on that day, and that the other motions which stood, should follow in the order in which they were placed on the paper.

The court then adjourned at 6 o'clock, to Wednesday next.

East-India House, March 28.

A quarterly general Court of Proprietors of East-India Stock was this day held, by adjournment, at the Company's House in Leadenhall-street.

ATTENDANCE OF DIRECTORS.

The minutes of the last court having been read—

Dr. *Gilchrist* rose and inquired why a notice of motion, relative to the attendance of Directors, which he had given at a former court, had not been read now.

The *Chairman* (Sir G. A. Robinson).—“Because the motions of which notice has been taken in the minutes, are either disposed of, or in part discussed. That is not the case with the motion of the hon. proprietor, which will come on in due course.”

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—“That motion contains a point which I would willingly relinquish, and I understood that you would allow it to be left out. I allude not to that part of the motion which relates to attendance, but to that portion of it which spoke of the bodily health and mental energies of the directors. When I mentioned them, there was something like a laugh in the court, and I could take a lesson from the circumstance: therefore I wish that part of the motion to be left out.”

The *Chairman*.—“I did not understand that there was any acquiescence on the part of the court to authorize the omission alluded to.”

BURNING OF HINDOO WIDOWS.

The *Chairman*.—“I have to acquaint the court that it is met by adjournment since the 21st inst. The motion which the proprietors are assembled to consider shall be now read, and the discussion may then be resumed.”

The motion was then read as follows:—

“That this Court, taking into consideration the continuance of human sacrifices in India, is of opinion that, in the case of all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life, it is the duty of a paternal government to interpose for their prevention; and therefore recommends to the hon. Court of Directors to transmit such instructions to India as that Court may deem most expedient for accomplishing this object, consistent with all practicable attention to the feelings of the natives.”

Mr. *Poynder* said he should begin his address by expressing, in the first place, his sincere acknowledgment to the court, for the patient attention which had been extended to him on the last occasion; and

in the second, for their kind consideration, in conjunction with that of the learned proprietor (Mr. R. Jackson), in acceding to that learned gentleman's motion for an adjournment. He had now arrived at the commencement of the *second* of the heads which he had laid down in the former part of his speech. But, perhaps, before he proceeded to discuss it, he would be allowed briefly to recapitulate the points to which he had, on the first day, called the attention of the court. He would confine himself to a simple recapitulation of those points; and would not detain the court by advancing arguments on the ground which he had already gone over. His first proposition, it would be recollected, was, that enough had not been done by the government, abroad or at home, on the subject of this revolting practice; the second, that more might now be done with perfect ease and complete safety to the British empire in India. In arguing that enough had not yet been done, it was necessary for him in the first instance to shew what had really been done; and, with that view, he had adverted to the prohibitory regulation, which grew out of the letter of the Marquess Wellesley and his council, addressed to the court of Nizamut Adawlut, on the 5th of February 1805. In that letter it was stated, “that it is one of the fundamental maxims of the British government to consult the religious opinions, customs, and prejudices of the natives, in all cases in which it has been practicable, consistently with the principles of morality, reason, and humanity.” On the 5th of June 1805, the court of Nizamut Adawlut answered that letter. In that answer, they omitted all reference “to the principles of morality, reason, and humanity,” consistently alone with which the Marquess Wellesley and his council had declared, that the “the religious opinions, customs, and prejudices” of the natives should be consulted. They observed, “that it would be impracticable at the present time, consistently with the principle invariably observed by the British government, of manifesting every possible indulgence to the religious opinions and prejudices of the natives, to abolish the custom in question;” but the court of Nizamut Adawlut nevertheless recommended the adoption of certain prohibitory or restrictive regulations. The Marquess Wellesley did not, however, adopt those regulations, on the authority of the Nizamut Adawlut. There was, then, not only this negative evidence that he did not like to sanction them; but, perhaps, he spoke in the presence of some who knew that official reasons existed for not adopting them. Those regulations were not acted on by the Marquess Cornwallis, when he arrived in India in 1805, nor by Sir George Barlow who succeeded him. But Lord Minto did adopt them

on the 5th of December 1812, seven years and a half after they had been proposed to the government of the Marquess Wellesley. They were adopted at a time not only when the Marquess Wellesley was out of power, but when his colleagues in council were out of power also. On the 5d of September 1812, the court of Nizamut Adawlut forwarded to the Governor-general in council a copy of a letter from Mr. Wauchope, the magistrate of Bundlucund, "requesting instructions for his guidance with respect to the practice of Hindoo widows burning themselves on the funeral piles of their husbands;" and, on the 5th of December 1812, Lord Minto, the then governor-general in council, caused that communication to be answered by directing that the regulations proposed on this subject by the court of Nizamut Adawlut, in June 1805, should be adopted, "as they appeared to his Lordship in council well adapted to the purpose they were intended for." Those regulations were thus sanctioned seven years and a half after they had been proposed. In consequence of reference made to the pundits, or interpreters of the Hindoo law, at different times, in order to ascertain how far the practice of suttee was founded on the religion of the natives, much important information was obtained. It was demanded whether a widow was enjoined by the Shaster to burn, or was merely allowed to do so? The answer was, that every widow was permitted to burn, except in certain specified cases. It therefore appeared that this was not an imperative duty, but a permissive rite; and in order to prove that the government so distinctly understood it, he had referred to the proceedings of the Nizamut Adawlut in 1816 (vol. v. page 107 of the Parliamentary papers), to the regulation for maintaining the strict observance prescribed by the Shaster in the burning of Hindoo widows (vol. i. page 126), where it was stated, "that the widow is permitted, though not enjoined, to burn on the funeral pile;" and farther, "that the suicide in these cases is not indeed a religious act, nor has it the sanction of Menu, and other ancient legislators revered by the Hindoos; on the contrary, Menu declares that a virtuous wife ascends to heaven, though she have no child, if, after the decease of her lord, she devote herself to pious austerity;" and he had likewise quoted the words of the Marquess of Hastings, in his letter of the 19th of October 1817 (vol. i. page 147), approving of the course recommended by the vice-president in council, with respect to the manner in which the influence and authority of the magistrates should be exerted to prevent suttees, where his lordship said, "he trusts that the rules and regulations will have a very beneficial effect in checking

the frequency of the instance of voluntary suttee amongst Hindoo women, by lessening the sense of obligation under which there is reason to believe many are induced to make this sacrifice of their lives, and showing that the practice is far from being inculcated as such by the most approved authorities of the Hindoo law." There were a multitude of proofs of the same description, scattered throughout those papers, to which, however, he would not refer. Sir W. Jones and other great authorities had stated, "that the pundits were generally corrupt interpreters of their own corrupt laws; but that still they had never dared to assert that this practice was essentially an integral part of the Hindoo religion." He (Mr. Poynder) had next, and as he thought successfully argued, that the prohibitory regulations framed in 1805, and carried into effect in 1812, were never meant to be final, but were of a temporary nature. He had proved, first, that they could not be final, in the nature of things, because they must vary with circumstances, if the government wished to put an end to this abuse; and secondly, that the execution of them was placed in the hands of native officers, who wished rather to keep up the practice than to check it, because they were exceedingly venal, as he had shewn. The letter of the court of Nizamut Adawlut, addressed to the Marquess Wellesley on the 5th of June 1805, in which those regulations were recommended—the proceedings of the Nizamut Adawlut, on the 25th of June 1817—the letter from the Nizamut Adawlut in July 1817, recommending an additional prohibition, confining the suttee to "the wife legally married and faithful to her husband;" these and many other documents proved that it never was intended that the regulations of 1812 should be final. In support of his whole line of argument, he had quoted the authority of many of the ablest servants of the Company, whose opinions were to be found in the printed papers; and he ultimately drew the attention of the court to information which he had derived from private sources. He admitted at the time, that those statements were not of the same importance, because they did not bear an official character, as the statements contained in the parliamentary papers that had been submitted to the Company: still, however, they were entitled to great attention, because those from whom they were derived had filled high situations in India. It was very true that they were addressing individuals privately, and he closed his observations by making that admission; but he must be allowed to say, that there was not one of their testimonies which he had not in court, under their own hands. The writers were men of high character and unimpeachable integrity:

tegrity: some of them were military servants—some of them were magistrates; and they were all men of the most scrupulous veracity. In short, knowing them to have been on the spot, and well acquainted with the facts to which they referred, he could not, he thought, have established his argument on better evidence, after the parliamentary documents, than their testimony afforded. He here might be permitted to mention, that those gentlemen whose communications he had quoted were every one of them at present in this country. He had not quoted one who was not here to back his own opinions; but, on the other hand, as several of them, indeed the majority of them, meant to return to India, it would be seen that there were good reasons for not disclosing their names. He had called the attention of the court to the annual returns of the number of suttees for nine years, from 1815 to 1823; and he had shewn, that there was not a year during that period in which he might not say, that multitudes of human beings had been sacrificed. During those nine years, no less than 5,425 suttees had taken place in Bengal; and, with respect to a large proportion of them (2,314, as we understood) not a single remark of the magistrate occurred in the returns. With respect to all those cases (he meant not to say whether they were legal or illegal) no observation on the part of the magistrate appeared. It was with

“————— A countenance more
In sorrow than in anger”

that he mentioned this fact. He had also, in the course of his argument, shewed that the fines imposed during the whole of these nine years, the fines imposed on the natives where any irregularity was discovered, were merely nominal. They were punished by a fine of a few rupees, or a few strokes of a cane; and the securities offered by them were uniformly worthless. He had shewn that the whole of these returns were full of cases displaying the most horrid cruelty and the most decided illegality; and he called on the court to interfere to prevent the shedding of so much blood. There was one passage in Scripture which was here peculiarly applicable. When the Lord demanded of Cain where his brother Abel was, and said, “Thy brother’s blood cryeth unto me from the ground,” gentlemen would recollect that Cain answered by another question—“Am I my brother’s keeper?” And most sorry should he be to hear such an answer as that from those who had the power of checking the monstrous evil. He should now proceed with the second head of his address, namely, that much more may be done, with perfect safety to the British empire in India, for the abolition of this barbarous practice. To

prove this, the hon. proprietor quoted, at great length, the opinion of the court of Nizamut Adawlut at different periods. And here he wished to call the attention of the court to the fact, that this barbarous rite was chiefly confined to one portion of our empire. This odious practice prevailed principally in Bengal, directly under the eye of the government. Mr. Ewart stated, that in 1816-17 no less than 860 suttees took place in Bengal, while in the same period only 600 occurred throughout the whole of the rest of their dominions. Mr. Oakley stated, as a reason for this, “that it was notorious that the natives of Calcutta exceeded all others in profligacy;” and he also observed, that this was not “a religious act,” but was insisted on from different motives. Mr. Wall, the magistrate of the Twenty-four Pergunnahs, stated “that, as compared with the suttees in the immediate vicinity of Calcutta, not one in thirty took place throughout the whole remaining extent of their empire.” Where the Hindoo religion existed in its purity, other powers had been able to prevent the practice, and why could not the English? The Mahometans and the Dutch had abolished it in their possessions, and why should not they? Abimbeker had been actually called upon to “put an end to this scourge.” The hon. proprietor then quoted a variety of authorities to prove that the Hindoo creed was opposed to this practice, which was not allied to the integrity of the Hindoo religion. He further cited authorities to shew “that the practice was prevalent amongst the lowest of the people, while satisfactory evidence could be adduced to shew that the higher ranks were not attached to it.” Now he was aware it had been said, and might be asserted in the course of this debate, that our interference would be a clear violation of the prejudices of the natives; and that, having tolerated them so long, it was now too late to meddle with them. But he would shew that there was no force in this argument, inasmuch as they had invaded the prejudices of the natives (and prejudices of no ordinary nature) over and over again. Did gentlemen recollect the change which was introduced thirty-five years since, with respect to the landed proprietors? Had they not interfered with many of their military and civil institutions? Had they not made a complete reform in the revenue and judicial system? And in doing so, had they not encountered and overcome the most violent prejudices and inveterate habits of the natives? Yet these acts had not caused any convulsion. These, it was true, were not religious cases, but Sir W. Jones adverted to some that were purely so; to the immense number of 10 or 15,000 of Hindoos who had been converted to Mahometanism; to the whole nation of the Seikhs, who had abjured

jured their religion, and adopted the worship of one god, omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent. These changes were all effected without producing any of those ill effects which some gentlemen apprehended from our interference with this practice. But they had gone a great deal farther. Every one must know that the Brahmins were esteemed sacred throughout India. The Hindoo laws absolutely forbade the execution of a Brahmin; they forbade the magistrate even to imagine evil of him—it was one of the deadly sins; the tribe was all but deified. Yet did the British government respect them more than any other class of the people, when they committed crimes? Assuredly not. It was clearly evident that it would not do to exempt them from the visitation of the law, when they were guilty of offences that deserved punishment. The British laws could not be allowed to stand still, while the best interests of the people at large suffered. Did the British government, when they placed the Brahmins in the same situation as the other classes of natives, and made them amenable to the laws, did they, on that occasion, call for an examination of the Shasters, or demand their interpretation by the pundits? They did not; but those who were accused were tried like common delinquents, and when found guilty, they suffered by the hands of the common hangman. — (*Hear!*) This was the greatest outrage that could be committed upon their religious prejudices; and did they complain of it? Did they rise for the purpose of resenting it? No; on the contrary, they afforded every facility for bringing the accused to justice, and expressed the admiration of the equality of our laws. The execution of Nundcomar, fifty years ago, afforded a striking illustration of this fact. He was a Brahmin of great influence and power, and yet he suffered death. At that period the British territory in India was of small extent, and was surrounded by enemies; it was, therefore, of the utmost importance that we should conciliate our new subjects. If ever there were difficulty in taking the bold step which the British government then took, it was at that precise period. But no mischief followed from it: no resistance was offered on the part of the people; who, after witnessing Nundcomar's execution, returned peaceably to their several homes. The question, as had been well observed, was not, therefore, whether they should for the first time infringe popular prejudices; but whether, having commenced this course, they should proceed forward, and liberate the country from a practice which filled it with innocent blood. To shew that they might proceed with safety, the hon. proprietor referred to the sacrifice of children by their mothers to the Ganges, at the annual fes-

tival held at Gungoo Saugor, which had been put an end to by a regulation of the Marquess Wellesley, declaring that such acts should henceforward be viewed as murder; and a proclamation to that effect was made every half-year. The prohibition was enforced by public authority. So far from this interference exciting discontent, it was received with a contrary feeling. The hon. proprietor, further to strengthen his argument, adverted to the custom which had long prevailed amongst the Jahrejahs of Guzerat, of murdering their infant daughters; and, horrible as was the fact, the mothers assisted in the destruction of their offspring. The humane and persevering exertions of Col. Walker, the resident at Baroda, had, however, been most successfully employed in checking this monstrous practice, which had been sanctioned as praiseworthy for many centuries. It was stated, that this gentleman, in his progress through the country, two years after he had effected this reform, "had an opportunity of seeing some of the children whom he had preserved, and of witnessing the triumph of nature over superstition. The women gloried in their situation as mothers; they called upon him as their guardian; and they invoked their gods to bless him and his children;" for so they emphatically denominated the infants whom he had been the means of preserving. After stating this, it was most painful to look at the fifth volume of those parliamentary papers. It was there on record that, notwithstanding all that had been done by Col. Walker's meritorious exertions, the practice of infanticide had again revived, in consequence of the apathy and indifference of that gentleman's successors. He might be told, that practices of this description must of necessity go on. This, however, he must strenuously deny: if positive laws were to be enacted, and put in force on this, as they had been on other subjects of less moral importance, such practices might and would be prevented. Let not gentlemen content themselves with the exertions of individuals: it was not by the efforts of such excellent men as Col. Walker, succeeded as they might be by individuals who would not perform their duty, that the destruction of such practices could be accomplished. It was only by a general law for India, that a general reform could be expected. Let them not lay "the flattering unction to their souls," that partial efforts would remove the evil. Such efforts—

"—— Will but skin and film the ulcerous place;
While rank corruption, mining all within,
Infects unseen."

The hon. proprietor then proceeded to state many instances in which the prejudices of the natives had been opposed without

without producing any evil effect; and he quoted a high official authority, who had said, "I hesitate not to affirm, that there was far greater difficulty and danger in reforming the revenue and judicial system, than would be found in an interference with a practice of this description, which was not commanded by their religion." The sepoys had not stipulated to give their services beyond sea; but in the last Burmese war they were commanded to proceed by sea, and, whatever might be their religious scruples or prejudices, they obeyed that command. He was perfectly convinced in his own mind, that if the Company in the same way ordered the abolition of this hideous practice, it would be speedily put an end to. He would ask, after the statements he had made, what was to prevent their effectual interference? They had already infringed, without any dangerous consequence having ensued, some of the most sacred prejudices of the natives; and when this was admitted to be the fact, were they to suppose that they would rise against their governors, when they shewed that their interference was more pure and disinterested than it had been on almost any other occasion? Such a course of reasoning could not be sustained for a moment. Their duty, then, was plain and obvious; the statements contained in the parliamentary papers encouraged them to proceed; and, in his opinion, they ought no longer to remain in a state of supine apathy. It had been well said, "that Great Britain had arrived at the highest pinnacle of power and greatness. She sat on her throne as the queen of the world, extending her sway to far distant portions of the earth; but, while diffusing from her capacious horn nothing but benefits to others, while she is herself enriched by commerce and nurtured by industry, let her never forget that she is entrusted with power and prosperity, for the purpose of blessing and protecting—whom?—her own subjects." Sir W. Jones, at a later period, had said: "Providence has thrown India into the arms of Great Britain, for her protection and welfare." If this were so, and that it was correct he entirely believed, how could they better prove that they studied the protection and welfare of that country than by putting a stop to this odious practice? It was not difficult to prove that the natives of India themselves were beginning to open their eyes to the abominations of their religious system. He had read with attention the treatise which Ram Mohun Roy (himself educated a Brahmin) had given to the British public on this subject. He stated,

"That the suttee was utterly at variance with his religion. Living constantly amongst the natives, he had an opportunity of seeing how the practice was encouraged by the Brahmins, who succeeded too well, in defiance of law and of

common sense. The obstinate adherence to this practice, which was founded on the violation of every humane and social feeling, was deeply to be regretted. In its continuance he saw the degradation of a race, who were capable of better things. These monstrous rites and ceremonies were encouraged by the Brahmins, to enable them to indulge in temporal comforts; and in furtherance of the same purpose, they kept from the people a correct knowledge of the sacred writings."

This conduct (observed Mr. Poynder) was very much like that of their friends the Romish priests nearer home. In vol. iv. page 11, of the parliamentary papers, Mr. Harington stated his opinion to be, that the practice might be put down without danger, because it was not an *universal*, but a *partial* one. He said:

"Were this practice universal, or prevalent to a great extent amongst all classes of Hindoos, in every part of our territories, there might be some ground for apprehending that a sudden interdiction of it would produce an alarming degree of discontent, and possibly of combined resistance. But we know the fact to be, that the practice prevails chiefly in Bengal, being founded principally on authorities that have local estimation in that province. The official reports further shew, that it has but a partial prevalence even in Bengal, few or no suttees having occurred for several years in some districts, particularly in the Moorshedabad division. The aggregate number also, in the whole of the provinces under this presidency, large as it justly appears on the separate valuation of individual human life, is but small, when we compare it with the total number of Hindoo females who annually become widows in the provinces, or with the number who survive their husbands from year to year, in opposition to the more limited usage of self-devotion."

Mr. Harington then observed, "that a difference of opinion existed amongst the Hindoos themselves, on the lawfulness and merit of the sacrifice;" and he next went on to argue that

"As the experience of more than half a century had proved, to the conviction of every Hindoo and Mussulman, our complete toleration of their respective religions, it was impossible that a legislative enactment to prevent assistance being hereafter given in the suttee immolation, with a view to preserve the lives of a number of miserable women from suicide, and to put a stop to the horrible abuses and cruelties which, unsanctioned by the Hindoo laws, had frequently attended an involuntary perpetration of this sacrifice, could be imputed to any other motive than what would really govern such an enactment; and which, therefore, might be fairly and fully declared, without danger of its being misconstrued into any thing like a general design to put down, by authority, the religious system with which the inhuman practice referred to is imperfectly connected."

In vol. ii, page 100, Mr. Dacre, criminal judge of the centre division at Cluttor, stated, "that he is satisfied, that the best informed and most respectable part of the natives would themselves have often prevented this ceremony if they had had the power;" and in page 101, Mr. Higginson, the criminal judge in the zillah of Trichinopoly, expressed himself in these terms:—

"If I were required to give my opinion as to the best means of putting a stop to this practice in future, I should say, that the collector and magistrate ought to be authorized to issue a proclamation, prohibiting altogether a custom so barbarous and unnatural; and which, though *permitted*, does not by any means appear to be insisted upon by the Shastrums. I would authorize the magistrate to declare, by the proclamation, any person or persons assisting in the self-immolation of a widow, liable to be brought to trial as an accessory in homicide; and would issue strict orders to all

heads of villages and officers of police to put an immediate stop to any attempt at preparation for an *anugamanum*. In the present times, the good sense and humane feeling of the Brahmins, as well as of the greater proportion of the Hindoo inhabitants, would point out to them the benevolent motive of government in prohibiting a practice, which has originated in ignorance and infatuation, and which must be reflected upon with abhorrence by every mind capable of distinguishing good from evil."

Amongst other cases recorded in these papers, there was one in which a dying native besought his wife not to sacrifice herself, but to live for the sake of her children. This request she obeyed; and no disrepute was attached to her in consequence of this proceeding. That many of the natives themselves viewed this practice with disgust, was manifest from a petition which had been some years since presented to the then Governor-general. They there said,

"Your petitioners are fully aware that persons about to be sacrificed were frequently bound down with ropes; and that some, after flying from the pile, were forcibly brought back by their relations: all which, your petitioners declare are murders, being entirely contrary to the doctrine of the Shasters; and your petitioners look forward with a lively hope, to such further measures for the prevention of such a system, as they have reason to expect from the known wisdom, firmness, and humanity which have ever distinguished your lordship's government."

It need not be a matter of great surprise that the enlightened natives had gone to so great a length, when they all must be aware that the Romans, heathens and idolators as they were, had abolished human sacrifices in Great Britain, two centuries before the introduction of Christianity into this country. They had such a mortal aversion to the Druids and their barbarous rites, that, contrary to the policy which they usually observed in their conquests, they put down their religion by the strong hand of power. They would not suffer human sacrifices to be continued. Those sacrifices existed in our own country, until the time of Paulinus Suetonius, who overthrew the superstitious doctrines of the Druids, long anterior to the introduction of Christianity. If the mere heathen, acting from natural impulse, listening simply to the

"*Homo sum:—humanum nila me alienum puto,*" put an end to this detestable system, could they, as Englishmen and as Christians, having brighter views and purer feelings, refuse their assistance in removing this most cruel and destructive superstition?—*(Hear!)* He had a right to advert to other sacrifices, besides the immolation of Hindoo widows; to the destruction of children, who at certain periods were left by their unnatural parents to perish in the waters; to drown or to become the prey of sick men on the banks of the Ganges. A captain in the Company's service stated, that he had seen from his windows, on one occasion, twenty-one persons thus destroyed in the Ganges, and eleven on ano-

ther. One of those individuals endeavoured to escape to the police station, but was immediately pursued by the Brahmins. Gracious Heaven! was there no one to protect those unfortunate persons? Was there no arm to rescue those victims from such a horrible fate? Again, was it not proper that he should allude to the practice of burying widows alive? There were not a few cases mentioned in these papers where the widow was buried alive, holding in her arms the putrid body of her deceased husband. But all these horrors sunk into insignificance before the curse of Juggernaut; the characteristics of which, to use the words of an eye-witness, were "obscenity and blood." Of the first point he should say nothing more, because the details were improper for the public ear, and did not bear upon his argument, which related to the shedding of human blood. To that subject the extracts which he was about to read directly referred. The ceremonies attending this branch of Hindoo superstition were thus described:—

"June 18, 1806.

"The throne of the idol was placed in a stupendous car or tower, about sixty feet in height, resting on wheels, which indented the ground deeply, as they turned slowly under the ponderous machine. Attached to it were six cables of the size and length of a ship's cable, by which the people drew it along. Thousands of men, women and children pulled by each cable; infants were made to exert their strength in this office; for it is accounted a merit of righteousness to move the God. Upon the tower were the priests and satellites of the idol, surrounding his throne. There were about one hundred and twenty persons on the car altogether. The idol is a block of wood, having a frightful visage, painted black, with a distended mouth of a bloody colour. His arms are of gold, and he is dressed in gorgeous apparel. The other two idols are of a white and yellow colour. Five elephants preceded the three towers, bearing towering flags, dressed in crimson caparisons, and having bells annexed to them."

Capt. *Marfield* rose to order. He begged to ask, whether the matter which the hon. proprietor was now stating had any reference to the burning of Hindoo widows

Mr. *Poynder* said, if the gallant officer would read the motion which was now before the court, he would find that it referred "to all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life in India," and not to the burning of widows alone. [The hon. proprietor then proceeded to read the details relative to the sacrifices at Juggernaut.]

"After the tower had proceeded some way, a pilgrim announced that he was ready to offer himself a sacrifice to the idol. He laid himself down on the road before the tower, as it was moving along, lying on his face, with his arms stretched forwards. The multitude pressed round him, leaving the space clear, and he was immediately crushed to death by the wheels of the tower. A shout of joy was raised to the God. He is said to smile when a libation of the blood is made. The people threw cowries, or small money, on the body of the victim, in approbation of the deed. He was left to view a considerable time, and was then carried by the Hurries to the Goolgotha, where I have just been viewing his remains."

"June 30, 1806.

"The horrid solemnities still continue. Yesterday,

terday, a woman devoted herself to the idol. She laid herself down on the road, in an oblique direction; so that the wheel did not kill her instantaneously, as is generally the case; but she died in a few hours. This morning, as I passed the place of skulls, nothing remained of her but her bones."

"June 21, 1806.

"The idolatrous processions continue for some days longer; but my spirits are so exhausted by the constant view of these enormities, that I must hasten away. I beheld another distressing scene this morning—a poor woman lying dead, or nearly dead, and her two children by her, looking at the dogs and vultures which were near. The people passed by without noticing the children. I asked them where was their home? They said, 'they had no home but where their mother was;' O, there is no pity at Juggernaut—no mercy, no tenderness of heart in Molochs."

"Juggernaut's Temple, near Ishera, on the Ganges, May 1807.

"The Tower here is drawn along like that at Juggernaut, by cables. The number of worshippers at this festival is computed to be about a hundred thousand. The Tower is covered with indecent emblems, which are freshly painted for the occasion, and were the objects of sensual gaze by both sexes. One of the victims of this year was a well-made young man, of healthy appearance and comely aspect. He had a garland of flowers round his neck, and his long black hair was dishevelled. He danced for a while before the idol, singing in an enthusiastic strain, and then rushing suddenly to the wheels, he shed his blood under the tower of obscenity."

"About the year 1790, no fewer than twenty-eight Hindoos were crushed to death at this very place (Ishera), under the wheels of Juggernaut. The fact of their deaths was notorious, and was recorded in the Calcutta newspapers of the period. One estimate I have seen, which was supplied me by a M.P., of the tax upon the worshippers of this bloody and obscene idol for the year 1822, makes it amount to £30,000, (or 2,40,000 rupees), which, though oppressive in the highest degree, and affecting in one festival at least 200,000 persons, excites no murmur among the Hindoos, who simply infer that the British are convinced of the divinity of Juggernaut. The ready acquiescence of the people in this taxation of their religion, is no mean proof that its bloodshed might be stopped. It further appears, from documents before Parliament, that the Indian government were not afraid, on one occasion, to seize the car of Juggernaut, and the idol itself, for the payment of a deficient tribute, from which, however, no ill consequences ensued; and shall we be more tender of our tottering revenue than of the lives of our perishing population? A pecuniary tax is also levied upon the pilgrims resorting to bathe in the sacred waters of Allahabad. This is an equal interference of political power with a religious rite, but the quiet acquiescence in its imposition affords no insufficient answer to those who contend that religious prejudice is to be untouched." Out of the tax levied, the government defrayed the expense incurred by the attendants of the idol. In 1816 that expense amounted to 69,000 rupees, or nearly £8,700. The third item of the account was under the head of "wages to the servants of the temple:" a part of which

consisted of payments to the prostitutes who were kept in the interior of the temple. Under the administration of the Marquess Wellesley, it was proposed to levy a tax on those who attended this abominable worship at Orissa, where the temple of Juggernaut was situated; but that nobleman disapproved of it, and left it to his colleagues to make this practice a source of revenue. The other members of the government considered it to be a legitimate source of revenue, because it had long been thought fair to take money from the devotees at other temples. It was afflicting to think that such a practice should, as it were, be thus sanctioned and encouraged by the government. No sophistry could justify such a proceeding. A practice so nefarious ought not to have been made a source of profit. Well had it been said, that "whatever is morally wrong, cannot be politically right;" and it had been most justly observed by an eminent author (Mr Burke), that "whatever disunited man from God, had an invariable tendency to separate man from man."—(Hear!) It would no doubt be asserted, before this argument was concluded, that the mutiny at Vellore presented insuperable obstacles to our interference. But really that case had nothing to do with the proposition which he was supporting. They had the highest authority, that of the governor of Madras himself, and of the executive body in their despatch of the 29th of May 1807, to the government abroad, as to the cause of that disturbance. It appeared that the discontent of the sepoys was occasioned by an alteration in their dress; and that the captive sons of the late Tippoo Sultan took that occasion to instigate the parties thus dissatisfied, to rebellion. Now, if this circumstance were quoted as a proof that it would be dangerous for the British government to interfere in putting an end to barbarous and bloody rites, he would ask, how did that case apply to the subject? If they interfered offensively with the dress of men who had arms in their hands, they might certainly expect that some resentment would be shewn. But was a proceeding of that kind, where a number of men had been rashly insulted, to be placed on the same footing with an effort, having no other object but that of preserving the lives of Hindoo widows, and thus securing maternal protection to their orphans? If the cases could not be proved to be analogous, he hoped no reference would be made to the mutiny at Vellore. It was with deep regret he stated, that Lord Amherst and his council, in their letter of the 3d of December 1824, discouraged our active interference in putting an end to this system. According to the statements contained in that letter, his Lordship seemed to apprehend that, by

some

some possibility or another, the interference which was now proposed would be attended with danger, and therefore he condemns such an interference as inconvenient, unwise, and injudicious, (*Hear !*) He (Mr. Poynder) did not shrink from stating this ; on the contrary, he placed it in the front of those authorities which were adverse to his view of the subject, because he did not think it difficult to demonstrate the fallacy of the opinion. It had been said, that the point which appeared to be of more importance and delicacy than any other, namely, the probable effect of our interference on the native army, had not been touched on in any of the opinions given by the government abroad. It was very true that the judges, magistrates, residents, collectors, and all the various persons whom he had quoted, never did touch on such an argument as the likelihood of any measure of prevention creating disaffection in the native army ; and they had abstained from doing so, merely because such an idea never entered their minds. Living as they did, in the country, and having every opportunity for observing the conduct of the army, it was wholly impossible that they could anticipate danger. They did not therefore allude, as a matter of argument, to that which they had never suspected ; which no man amongst them had conceived to be possible, much less probable. Neither the Governors-general, nor the Courts of Nizamat Adawlut, who had examined the question in all its bearings—who had expressed their opinion that a time must occur for putting an end to this practice, though they did not state when—had ever even hinted at any danger of this nature ; they never feared such an event. They did not believe it possible that, for the sake of prohibiting a law, the object of which was to prevent their mothers and sisters from burning themselves, that a great and gallant army (he only spoke of them with the respect they merited) could be moved by any such mutinous feeling, equally unworthy of them as soldiers and as men. If a contrary view of the case operated on Lord Amherst, and formed the groundwork of the letter which he sent home in 1824, then, acting on such apprehensions, the custom must be allowed to go on for all time—an abolition of the practice could never be effected. But he (Mr. Poynder) entertained no such sentiment of apprehension. “ The time had been,” said Mr. Burke, “ when 10,000 swords would have leaped from their scabbards to avenge a threatening look directed against a royal female ;” and he would ask, were they to suppose that their whole army would be weak and wicked enough simultaneously to unsheath their swords for the very opposite purpose ? Would that army array

itself against the British power, because that power humanely attempted to prevent mothers and sisters (persons united to this very soldiery by the ties of blood) from sacrificing themselves on the funeral pile ? (*Hear !*) He was now coming nearer home, and he wished to fix the attention of the court to a very important fact. It was, he believed, no secret to the public, that the directors themselves were divided in opinion on the question of abolishing human sacrifices in India. He had first become acquainted with the fact, from the conduct of one or two protesting individuals on this subject. Mr. Hudleston one of those gentlemen, had devoted much time and labour to this subject ; and his opinion was set forth in a voluminous statement addressed to the Court of Directors, and which, he supposed, would be laid before the proprietors if called for. He was anxious to procure a sight of that paper, and he had applied for it at a former court. He understood that, as it was not a document belonging to the Secret Department, and as much had been already printed on this subject for the House of Commons, that this further information would not be refused to the proprietors. But, on applying to the Court of Directors, not for any copy of this document, but merely for a perusal of it, he was told that it would be contrary to the established rules of the Company to permit him to have a sight of it ; but it was added, that the document might be moved for in any general court. He therefore watched with some anxiety and impatience for the next general court, which took place precisely one week before the day for which his motion was fixed. He then took the liberty of moving for that paper ; and the reply to his proposition was, that he could then only give notice of motion for the production of the paper, which should be discussed at the ensuing court. He stated that, if such were the case, it would be impossible for him to derive from that document the information he required, as his motion stood for discussion on the next Wednesday. He mentioned this to the hon. Chairman, who received the intimation with courtesy, and said that the paper should be laid on the table, which was sufficient for his (Mr. Poynder's) purpose. But it was added by another hon. Director, that though it might be laid on the table on the day of discussion, it would still remain for the court to decide whether it should be read or not. This, of course, precluded all hope ; and he abandoned, in despair, any chance of procuring a perusal of the paper. On arriving in the court to-day, one of their officers informed him that the paper in question was preparing for Parliament, and he suggested the propriety and expediency of waiting until the document

was laid on the table of the House of Commons. He did not mean to complain; but he regretted that, in a case of great importance like the present, when a previous intention of asking for information was known, such information should, in effect, have been refused. He wanted no favour—he sought none. He cared not whether A. B. or C. D. made the application, but he did think it was desirable that the court should not be so hampered, so tied up hand and foot, by certain ceremonies and forms, as to be precluded from any important information, on a very serious and interesting subject. He had looked into the by-laws, and he saw nothing there in support of such a practice; but he supposed that the hon. director, who was extremely expert, would be borne out by the usage of the court. They had all heard of the *summum jus* being not unfrequently the *summa injuria*; or, as Pope had it:

“A right, too rigid, sometimes proves a wrong;”

and he did think that such was the fact in his case. As he could not obtain this document, gentlemen would see that he was entirely precluded from saying any thing decisive respecting it. All he could state was, that in the month of June 1823, they had, under the hands of seventeen directors, written out to India on the subject of suttees, a direction to the Governor-general in Council “to interfere as little as possible” with this practice, for reasons which were detailed in the letter. But, in addition to that letter of 1823, they had, it appeared, the declaration of two directors, who stated their belief (not in any equivocal or doubtful manner) that this foul practice might, and ought to be, put down and suppressed. At any rate, this served to shew (and he therefore introduced it in his argument) that the directors themselves were divided on this question. It might be asked of him, “why the suppression of this practice had not been moved for in Parliament on the production of the papers for which the legislature had called.” Now he did not know that he was particularly bound to answer that question; but if it meant that the Parliament of this country was silent because the question was of such extreme difficulty and delicacy; if it were argued, that therefore the Company could not move in the business, if this were to be asserted, then he must say, he thought it was a conclusion that no gentleman was justified in coming to; because, in his view of the case, they were themselves the best correctors of the evils connected with their own empire; and if this flagrant evil were not put down by measures devised here, it would never be abolished at all. But there were other and better reasons for the non-interference of Parliament.

Who, he demanded, would step in to deprive the Court of Proprietors—to deprive this great Company—of the grace of performing so humane and honourable an act—of the grace of extending mercy to thousands of females, who must otherwise perish? Who, if the Company had acted wrong in sanctioning such a system, would deprive them of the grace of ultimately doing that which was right? An acknowledgment of error was ever considered the proof of a magnanimous spirit, in the transactions of human life; and was that Company so great, and mighty, and distinguished, that it could not be governed by the common rule—that it could not acknowledge and reform its error without disgrace or shame? He should submit, with all that deference which he was bound to pay to the legislative and judicial powers of Parliament (loving, and honouring, and respecting them, which, as an Englishman, he did), that they were not so competent to deal with this question as that court was; and it was, he thought, only as that court performed its duty boldly and manfully, that the Legislature would feel inclined to come in, and aid their efforts with its strong and overruling arm. (*Hear!*) It might perhaps be said, that the time for acting was not yet completed; he, however, contended that the contrary was the fact: the time had arrived, and their duty was clear and imperative. They had it solemnly recorded by the highest authority, that the abolition was perfectly practicable, but that authority did not think it would be prudent to make the experiment while hostilities were raging—while the din of war was sounding in their ears. The time had not then come; but his argument was, that the time had now come; and they ought not therefore to lose a moment. He would now suppose the *worst probable*, and the *least possible*, result that could follow our interference. He would suppose that, for some time after a prohibition of this practice, suicide would be privately committed. Was that any reason why we should cease to call for an abolition of the existing system? Was it not their duty to discharge themselves from the most distant participation in this crime? Was it not proper that they should escape from even the shadow of delinquency—that they should no longer be looked on as *participes criminis*—that they should prevent, instead of sanctioning, scenes at which human nature revolted? (*Hear!*) Let gentlemen bear in mind the legal maxim, “*Qui non prohibet, prohibere possit, jurat.*” This was a maxim of the common law of England, which had been justly described as the perfection of sense and reason. It was said that the authorities in India were the most competent to form an opinion on this subject, and that they had never inter-
fered.

terfered. Now it appeared from those inestimable papers, that, from the beginning of our Indian empire, the government abroad had done nothing; and therefore he would not leave the business in the hands of those who had shewn so much indifference. The prohibitory regulations were not only nothing, but worse than nothing; for they operated to induce a belief on the part of the natives that we viewed the practice in a favourable light, and they had the effect of renovating the system, rather than of checking and putting it down. Lord Amherst, in his despatch, did not throw out the least hope or expectation that the practice would be abolished even at the most distant period. It was further said, that "we ought to wait for the growth of Christianity in India, as the surest means of opening the eyes of the people to the frightful nature of this practice." He would allow this argument its full weight, although he thought it came with rather an ill grace from those who manifested the greatest alarm at every step that was taken for the conversion of the natives. It had been his particular wish, in discussing this question, to avoid the introduction of any argument founded on the doctrines of Christianity. Did he omit that topic because he was insensible of the value of religion? Certainly not. It was religion that had afforded him, and would continue to afford him, while he was spared, the most cheering consolation; it was to religion alone that he could look for support in the agonies of expiring nature; it was that divine principle on which he rested all his well-grounded hopes of eternity. Did he therefore renounce this line of argument, because he thought it weak or unimportant? By no means. But he had chosen to argue this case on lower grounds. He wished to shew that the practice was contrary to law, contrary to nature, contrary to the principles of every government; and that if Christianity never had existed, such a practice ought not to be suffered. He had quoted the Marquess Wellesley and other authorities, to prove that to put an end to it was practicable and justifiable. He admitted that, by the mere light of nature, the people would probably never be brought to see the magnitude of this evil; therefore he would contend that the government which presided over them was bound to lay it open to the natives, and to prevent its continuance. If they waited for that period when a general conversion of the natives should be effected, before they took any step in this business, then he believed the most sanguine calculator must admit that they would have to wait for a very long time. Now ought they to suffer such a state of things to continue, until some indefinite period or other of time

Asiatic Journ. VOL. XXIII. No. 137.

had arrived, when the natives, the Brahmins, the Hindoos, and all other classes, had adopted the doctrines of Christianity? He thought not; and he hoped and believed that the court would say the same thing. On this point, a single extract remained. It was the opinion of one of their authorities abroad, who said, "the ceremony of suttee was essential to the subsistence of the Brahmins, who derived considerable large sums from the practice, and who would not give up their gains;" and he concluded by stating as his opinion, "that it can only be put an end to by the extinction of the Brahminical creed; and he did not expect any abatement of the practice, except under the dispensations of Christianity." He however thought that the Company ought to interfere promptly, instead of suffering the practice to continue for centuries longer. He meant to have troubled the court with some further detailed statements, drawn from high authorities (and he had not far to look for abundance of such authorities); but he felt the indulgence of the court to have been so great, that he was unwilling to trespass farther on the time of the proprietors. He begged however to quote the opinion of that honourable man, the late Mr. C. Grant, whose name could never be mentioned in that court without exciting feelings of respect and esteem. That gentleman, in his valuable publication (which he Mr. Poynder sincerely wished was printed and in the hands of every director and proprietor, as it had, in 1797, been ordered to be printed for the use of Parliament), asked, "Are we pledged to support, for all generations, by the power of our government and our army, that system of misery which ignorance has inflicted on a great portion of the human race? Is that the part which an enlightened government should take with respect to its own subjects? It would be ridiculous to think that Great Britain was directly or impliedly bound to sustain a practice which was at variance with reason, morality, and religion. We shudder at the idea of human victims having been formerly offered up in Mexico; but for sixty years we have suffered a more cruel practice to prevail in our Indian dominions. In Hindostan, mothers were taken from children who had just lost their father, and were barbarously consigned to the flames."

"Murder most foul, as in the best it is,

But this most foul, strange, and unnatural!"

He had now, as a proprietor, humbly endeavoured to discharge his duty to the court and to the Company at large; and he called on the proprietors fearlessly to discharge theirs. He called on them to exercise their own honest and honourable judgment on this occasion, and not to surrender that judgment at the shrine of some

imaginary evil; he conjured them not to suffer themselves to be alarmed by the fear of contingent circumstances. Let them not suppose, that by stepping in between the living and the dead, they would excite the passions, either of the military or of the natives in general. He would here beg leave to read an extract from a periodical work, entitled *The Friend of India*, which was appended to Mr. Harington's minute on this subject. Mr. Harington spoke of it as "a well-written paper 'on female immolation,' which the late Sir Henry Blossett, as well as myself, read on our voyage to India; and which appeared to both as a powerful and convincing statement of the real facts and circumstances of the case." The author of that article concluded his observations in these terms :—

"Let us then freely look at the practicability of its abolition, and number both its friends and its foes. We may calculate on the support of all the humane, the wise, and the good, throughout India; we may depend on that great majority of the people who have prevented every village in India from being lighted up monthly with these infernal fires. Those who used all their power and influence to liberate their country from the stigma of this guilt, by preventing their own mothers and sisters from ascending the funeral pile, will undoubtedly support us in discountenancing the practice elsewhere. We shall enlist on our side all those tender feelings which, though now dormant, will then be aroused into new life and vigour; but, above all, we shall surround ourselves with the protection of that Almighty Power, whose command is, 'Thou shalt do no murder,' who defends the weak and succours the injured; who, when the cries of oppressed India had pierced his throne, selected us, of all other nations, to break its chains, and restore it to happiness. With all these advantages in our favour, we may surely despise the wallings of those who, despicable in numbers, have rendered themselves still more despicable by their inhumanity; to whom the shrieks of a mother or a sister, writhing in the flames, are as the sweetest music; who have parted with all that distinguishes men from demons, and retain nothing of our nature but its outward form."

(*Hear!*) It was impossible for him to know in what manner the Court of Directors might think fit to treat this motion; but he hoped for their own sakes, as men, that they would not oppose it. He said this as their sincere friend, for he had never been otherwise; and he could openly and honourably challenge them, individually or collectively, to point out with their finger any instance, during a connexion of thirty years with the Company, in which his conduct had been different from that of a disinterested friend. (*Hear!*) He did not call on the Court of Directors to precipitate measures. It would be at once seen, from the temperate resolution which he was about to propose, that he entertained a different feeling. What were the terms of his resolution? They were, "That this court, taking into consideration the continuance of human sacrifices in India, is of opinion, that in the case of all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life, it is the duty of a paternal government to interpose for their prevention; and therefore recommends to the

Hon. Court of Directors to transmit such instructions to India as that court may deem most expedient for accomplishing this object, consistent with all practicable attention to the feelings of the natives." Now, he would ask, was there any thing in this motion at all precipitous? Was there any thing in it that did not leave it to the Court of Directors to pursue their measures in their own way and at their own time? And though he had not used the word *gradual*, for fear of mistake, it must be conceded to him, that there was nothing in the resolution that militated against the adoption of the most gradual abolition. He asked for the interference of the Court of Directors to put an end to this practice; but he did not prescribe the mode in which that object should be effected. He founded his application for the putting down this barbarous system, on the declarations made by their own constituted authorities; by the judges, magistrates, and residents, who had written home on this subject. The statement which he had made, was not his act, but theirs. If men, living amongst those people, said, "You can, if you please, get rid of this system of burning widows without incurring any danger," they, and not he, were accountable for the correctness of the statement; he only submitted their simple testimony to the court. But though he gave that strong, and, he would say, decisive testimony, yet he had shaped his motion in the most temperate manner. He left it to the Court of Directors to effect this great object in their own way, and to enjoy all the credit that would be attached to the act. It might be said, that that part of his resolution in which it was stated, that "it is the duty of a paternal government to interpose for the prevention of the sacrifice of human life," was a mere truism; he knew it was a truism, but he should like to know in what part of the proceedings of their government that truism was recognized? Was it in the Directors' letters, or in the conduct of the government abroad? He should now conclude. Thousands in this country awaited the decision of this day with an intense anxiety, equalled only by that which prevailed throughout India, bleeding, as she did, at every pore; he therefore called on them to suffer no idle apprehensions to step in between them and the abolition of this cruel practice. He would, in the emphatic words of the poet, say—

"————— Be just and fear not;
Let all the ends thou aim'st at be thy country's,
Thy God's, and truth's."

The hon. proprietor then moved his resolution.

Sir C. Forbes, in rising to second this motion, begged leave to offer the hon. proprietor his sincere thanks for the very able, and, in his mind, unanswerable manner

ner in which he had brought the subject before the court. It would, he was sure, be wasting the time of the court if he attempted to add more than a very few words to what the hon. proprietor had so fully introduced to their attention; and he should not solicit their indulgence at all, if he did not entertain some opinions that did not entirely accord with those of the hon. proprietor. He confessed that if he had any fault to find with the hon. proprietor's speech, it related only to one or two points, with respect to which the zeal of the hon. proprietor seemed to carry him a little farther than was altogether prudent on this occasion. He could wish, in fact, that the subject to which he chiefly alluded could be kept entirely out of view. This was not a question of religion or of policy, but purely a question of humanity. The question was, what they owed to the natives of India, as sovereigns—and how far they had discharged their duty to that great population. His opinion was, that they ought to hold most sacred all the religious rites, and even prejudices of the natives, but he did not consider this was one of them. Indeed, they had the fullest evidence to the contrary. That was to say, that the evidence given for and against the propriety of interfering with this question, greatly preponderated in favour of the interference of government to put down those human sacrifices; and that this might be done with perfect safety to India, he could, conscientiously speaking, not entertain the smallest doubt. In his opinion, it was hardly possible for any proprietor who had listened as he had done to the speech of the hon. mover, from beginning to end, to refrain from coming to that conclusion, the hon. gentleman had adduced the authority of so many able and good men in support of his argument. It was his good fortune, while he was in India, never to witness any human sacrifice, in any way whatever. During the time he lived at Bombay he never heard of one of them; and yet, of a population of 200,000 souls, three-fourths were Hindoos, and a large proportion of them were of a high class; still he never heard of one solitary instance of a Hindoo widow making application to government for liberty to burn with her deceased husband. He believed it was necessary to obtain permission of the government to burn;—and an application was made to the then Governor of Bombay for that purpose. Now, though no man more religiously wished to respect the rites and ceremonies of the natives of India, yet he decidedly refused permission for the suttee to be performed. (*Hear!*) What then was done? Why they conveyed the widow from the island of Bombay to the Mahratta shore, and there the sacrifice took place. Now he was convinced that

if the British government did all in their power to put down this practice, it would soon disappear. They could not view this practice in any other light but as a horrible rite, that ought not to be tolerated; and, in his opinion, it might be put down, and could be put down, without delay and without danger. (*Hear!*) He was sorry to hear, on a question of this kind, insinuations were thrown out, that if an attempt were made to remove this evil, it would be attended with danger from the army. He viewed such an insinuation as a libel on that army. (*Hear!*) He had no doubt that the army of India would rather feel themselves called on to support all just and lawful commands, issued by the government for the purpose of putting down such abominable rites. He would ask, did they ever hear of one sacrifice in a British camp in India? (*Hear!*) Never; and he would contend, that the suppression of this practice did not involve the feelings of the native army of India. With regard to the manner of preventing suttees, and the mode of punishing all those concerned in such practices—these points no doubt demanded the most mature deliberation. But, if they once looked to the principle, the means would soon be found. Let them view the practice as they ought, and as it was viewed by all Englishmen and Christians; let them view it as murder, and those who were aiding and abetting in its perpetration, as guilty of murder. Then let the mode of punishment be considered. He did not wish to visit those who were concerned in this crime with the punishment of death; there were other punishments, infinitely more severe and more effectual, by the Hindoo laws, than death. He might perhaps be asked, this day, "How would you like to be in India when the first Brahmin was punished for this offence?" His answer was, that he should not have the smallest objection to be there; and he should rejoice at seeing such an event; because it would prove the determination of government to put an end to this horrible system. They every day heard of Brahmins brought to punishment for different crimes. They were exiled, condemned to imprisonment, polluted, by being brought into contact with Hindoos of every caste, and put to work on the roads in irons. If, on their behalf, an appeal was made to the army, they would be at once told, "You do not deserve to be assisted—you may thank your own crimes for your punishment." Why should not their native army, who were just in other affairs, be just also with reference to this? For his own part, he had not the least apprehension of their tried fidelity. It surely never could be the intention of this court, or of the British Legislature, to continue this practice. All who knew him must know, that he would be one of the last men

in that court to support any thing that might be supposed to have a tendency to interfere with the religion of the natives of India, or to force on them any thing contrary to that religion. (*Hear!*) He had but slightly mentioned the degree of objection which might be advanced against punishing crimes of this kind with death; but he would here take the liberty of stating to the court the opinion of a great man, Sir W. Jones, lately quoted by the hon. proprietor, on this subject, to shew that the Hindoo laws admitted of punishments, infinitely more, and more to be dreaded by a Brahmin, than the shedding of his blood. It would be wrong to punish this offence by a deprivation of life—because the practice was permitted, if not commanded, by the Hindoo religion. It had been allowed to grow up under the British government—and it would not be right for this court and the Court of Directors to cut it down too suddenly. He was fortunately enabled to state, in his own words, and under his own hand-writing, the opinion of Sir W. Jones. In a letter, dated November 22, 1788, he thus expressed himself:—

“My dear Sir: I return to Mr. B. the papers containing the records, which I have read with attention, and not without emotion. Though I would not violate my rule, not to interfere with the religious practices of this country, yet since you ask my opinion, on a particular point, I must say, I think it impolitic, and perhaps unjust, to shed the blood of a Brahmin, by the sword of justice for any crime whatever. I know that the execution of Nundomar is vehemently resented to this hour by the Hindoos of this province. All the sects, especially those of Menu and others, who believe the religion to be inspired, lay it down as a maxim, that a Brahmin's blood should not be shed. In truth, the Brahmins are not afraid of death; and the punishments for murder ordained by Menu, confiscation of property, banishment, public disgrace, and branding on the forehead with a hot iron, are more dreadful to them than decapitation. The fear would be, that, after suffering any of these punishments, they would kill themselves. But, if they did, our name would be saved from the odium of violating laws which they hold sacred.”

He thought this was a very important testimony, as shewing that various different degrees of punishment might be employed without taking away life; such, for instance, as confiscation of property, which would be felt most severely. Though he concurred with the hon. proprietor in thinking that all the details of this question ought to be left to the mature consideration of the executive body; still, he must express his hope that, in adopting the very moderate motion which had been brought forward, they would not consider it as putting the subject to sleep. He should hope and believe, that the Court of Directors would feel themselves imperatively called on, if this motion were carried, as he thought it would, by a very large majority, to take prompt measures to carry into effect the obvious views of this court, in such a manner as would effect this desirable object. As the question would soon be brought

forward by his hon. friend (Mr. Buxton) in another place, he hoped it would not be allowed to go to sleep for sixty years more, as had been stated by the hon. proprietor.

Major Carnac.—“Sir, I have listened with great attention to the speech of the hon. mover, and also to the observations of my hon. friend (Sir C. Forbes) who succeeded him in the debate; and I feel it my duty to offer myself for a short time to the notice of the court. In doing so, I have, in the first place, to entreat your indulgence to an individual who has never before addressed a public assembly—and to request your forbearance towards any irrelevancy of matter or want of method into which I may be betrayed in delivering my sentiments. (*Hear!*) No one, I will venture to affirm, is more ready than I am to do justice to the zeal of the hon. proprietor who has brought this subject before the court; and, whatever may be the result of his motion, I conceive that a material benefit will be derived from the discussion, inasmuch as our government and servants in India will see that in this great and enlightened country an anxious attention prevails to the continuance of a practice, which is as repulsive to humanity as it is in contravention of the Laws of God. (*Hear!*) But, while I concur entirely in the end and object which the hon. proprietor has in view, I differ as decidedly from the means which he has recommended to be pursued. While I applaud the construction of part of his motion, I cannot agree with him in the reasonings by which he has judged it proper to support it. Perhaps the court will allow me to refer to some notes which I hold in my hand, exhibiting my views on this most interesting subject; and I hope that on future occasions I shall be able to acquit myself more satisfactorily.” The hon. director then proceeded as follows from his notes:

“It is, in my opinion, a material error in our system of government in India, that with the most laudable intentions we are too prone to innovation, misled by our habits of judging the people of that country by the scale of high civilization to which we ourselves have advanced. Hence the erroneous belief that nothing is wanting but the exertion of authority and power to effect that degree of moral improvement which, from the very essence of its nature, can only be the result of time, and the progressive operation of a discreet and beneficent government. We are too apt to overlook the state of comparative non-civilization to which this now enlightened country was itself reduced, during that eventful period of its history when bigotry, superstition, and prejudice, were its sad and sole characteristics, and to forget that our emancipation from these bonds of darkness was effected, not by any sudden, or compulsive, or coercive reformation; but by the gradual hand of time, the unshackled reflections of reason; and the salutary diffusion of those great principles of truth, which have at length placed us on the pinnacle

nacle of refinement as to moral feeling and intellectual superiority. Nothing that I have met with in the history of mankind would lead me to think that sudden and violent revolutions of opinion, tending to the eradication even of evils, can ever be productive of permanent benefit. Experience, on the contrary, will prove, that compulsory interposition with national prejudices, however monstrous or absurd, have but too often led to an extension of the evil which it proposed to annihilate. In legislating for the East, we should bear in mind, that the people with whom we are anxious to share our own happy exemption from the trammels of ignorance and prejudice have, for unrecorded ages, been the slaves of a custom which it is now proposed to snap asunder at one blow—a custom which, however abhorrent to our feelings, however justly revolting to our religion, is, I fear, too deeply interwoven with theirs to be rashly severed from the kindred branch with which it has been hitherto nurtured. The habits of nations, and those habits, too, the uninterrupted growth of centuries, and springing from sentiments which, however erroneous, can hardly be termed vicious—cannot, and I may say ought not, to be violently eradicated. The feeling which prompts a human being to prefer death to infamy, which urges the European to sacrifice his life in preference to his honour, and bids the Hindoo throw herself on the burning pile of her dead husband, is one which, however deplorable in its effects, is still, from its origin, entitled to a certain respect; it is a feeling which must be combated by reason, not with penal prohibitions; and, emanating, as it does, from a misdirected greatness of soul, it demands at least this concession."

Sir C. Forbes was sorry to be obliged to call the hon. Director to order. He apprehended it was not regular to read a written speech. It appeared to him that the hon. Director was perfectly capable of proceeding without having recourse to notes.

Col. L. Stanhope reminded the hon. Bart. that the hon. mover had read a brief of sixty or seventy pages.

The Chairman said, he was quite free to acknowledge, that it was rather a novel practice in any meeting to allow a prepared speech to be read; but his hon. friend had, in the course of the hon. mover's address, been personally alluded to, as having improperly departed from those principles and that practice, as resident at Baroda, which had been so much lauded in his predecessor. His hon. friend had also told them, that this was the first time he had addressed the court. Much consideration must, therefore, be due to him personally; and when he had seen hours expended by the hon. proprietor who had brought forward this motion, in reading from prepared papers and documents, he did think that he should be guilty of great injustice if he did not suffer his hon. friend to proceed.

Mr. Poynder rose to explain.

The Chairman. "You can explain when my hon. friend has concluded."

Major Carnac. "I have to apologize for having trespassed on the court. I can assure you, however, that my motive in

taking the course I have done is an honest one. It was perfectly possible for me to have prepared a speech, but I do not wish by any disingenuous mode to obtain your attention, or that my sentiments on this interesting question should be misunderstood." The hon. Director then proceeded with his notes, which concluded thus:

"With respect to ourselves, we know how futile are all enactments against a practice, which, barbarous as it is, is deemed necessary to the vindication of outraged honour. There is a feeling in the human breast paramount in such cases to any artificial restraints; and if, in indulging it, we even venture to transgress the express commands of the Divine Author of our religion, how much less are we justified in our practice, than those who may plead their religion, if not enjoining, at least sanctioning it? With reference then to a legislative interdiction of a custom which has prevailed for ages, it is my mature opinion that it would be calculated to increase the evil of self-immolation, instead of correcting it. The prohibition itself would be an engine in the hands of the Brahmin priests, to excite the minds of those who might have a disposition to sacrifice; and we might be compelled to witness the committal of suicide in a variety of forms, in substitution of the sacrifice by suttee. In a political point of view, it may be made the instrument of misrepresentation of our views as to the religious propensities of the natives, and derange and abstract those great principles of improvement, which are happily making such rapid advances in our cultivation of a closer intercourse with our native fellow-subjects, and in the means provided for the diffusion of education."

"These, Sir, are the few notes with which I shall trouble the court. It may almost be unnecessary to add, that any man who can defend the practice of suttee in principle, is less than man, and can only be distinguished from the brute in the image which he bears of his creator; but in the government of mankind, from the imperfections of our common nature, we should be cautious that enthusiasm does not mislead our sober judgment, and be assured that time is required for the consummation of any good. (*Hear!*) We are all, I consider, agreed as to the propriety of putting down this barbarous practice, so far as sound policy and a due regard for the feelings of the natives will justify our interference. But allow me, Sir, to remark, that the prohibition which the hon. gentleman proposes, embraces the most extensive application of which it is susceptible—he does not confine it to those territories which have long enjoyed the blessings of good government, and in which our beneficent intentions have been practically exemplified to our native fellow-subjects, but he boldly advances, that a legislative prohibitory enactment to the practice of suttee, should include even those territories which have but recently been subjected to our dominion, where our system and views cannot yet be appreciated, and may be easily misunderstood, and where the feel-

ings

ings of the people on the nature of things must, in the first instance, be unfavourable. Under all these circumstances, I would very earnestly suggest to this court, that this question be committed to those hands whose competency to judge of it has been illustrated in the letter to the Bengal Government, read at our last meeting—it is a difficult and delicate question, pregnant with the most important consequences, and in leaving it to the care of the Court of Directors, you will leave it to those who have already testified their appreciation of its interest and importance. I have now, Sir, to refer to another part of the speech of the hon. proprietor, in which he has lauded a distinguished individual, Col. Walker, for his zeal and humanity in checking the practice of infanticide; at the same time he has reproached, in strong terms, the successor of that gallant officer for his apathy and negligence to the same great object. I believe that, for worth, for ability, for pure benevolence and virtue, a better man than the gallant officer who has been named does not exist under the canopy of heaven. If there is any event on which I felicitate myself, it is, that from boyhood I was under that gallant officer's protection, and had the benefit of his example and the happiness of his confidence and affection. If Sir, I have had any prosperity in life, I owe it mainly to Colonel Walker. Now I think the hon. proprietor could not have passed the unjustifiable censure which he has done, if he had made inquiry into the subject—he would have discovered from the papers he held in his hand, that when Col. Walker formed his plan for putting down infanticide (and it was certainly by his efforts that the native chieftains entered into engagements for the abolition of that practice), I, as his assistant, forwarded his object to the utmost of my power. Subsequent to my predecessors departure the public service rendered it expedient that the resident at Baroda should remain at his station, which was 200 miles from the province where the practice of infanticide prevailed. One would however suppose, from the statement of the hon. proprietor, that the Jahrejah chiefs were subject to our laws, and their possessions an integral part of the British dominion, but what is the fact? that they are independent chieftains paying tribute to our ally, over whom we could claim no right of control whatever. Nevertheless, if the hon. proprietor will do me the favour to go into the investigation, he will find that the number of children preserved, under all the existing discouraging circumstances, was not inconsiderable in proportion to those previously saved during the period of my residency—he will discover, also, that in the only instance in which an attempt was made to

levy the stipulated penalties from a chief (owing to the difficulty of detection), those penalties were levied by myself from the most powerful Jahrejah chieftain of the country. This I consider, Sir, a personal question, affecting both my feelings and my character. I must, therefore, appeal to many gentlemen now in this court, who have known me from early years, whether they have ever heard of, or witnessed any act in my life which could justify the imputation that I was callous to feelings of humanity. I can tell the hon. proprietor, that the very sacrifice of suttee, which he so properly condemns, had much abated at the station of Baroda at the period of my departure. (*Hear!*) Having, during the period of my service, been honoured with the confidence of the governments abroad, and the approbation of my honourable masters at home, I cannot be induced to think that the hon. proprietor could have been aware that he was specifically referring to me, when he made the remarks which have called forth these observations. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. Poynder said, he had no idea of exciting so much painful feeling on the part of the hon. Director, and he was exceedingly concerned that he had not been permitted to explain before. In the remark he had made, he certainly had not the hon. Director in his eye. He believed that no man deserved a more high or honourable character. (*Hear!*) He would not only distinctly exculpate that hon. individual from any imputation of this sort; but he would say that, with regard to the putting down of infanticide, he was the right hand of Col. Walker. His only allusion was to another class of persons, who had followed Col. Walker, and who were spoken of by him, in his letter to the Court of Directors, as not having pursued his directions and wishes. He really did not know who those successors were; but with respect to the hon. Director, if there were any name that stood higher than another, his was that name.

The Chairman said, so far was he from regretting the opportunity which he had afforded to his hon. friend to make the remarks which he had done in the close of his speech, that he would, on the contrary, much more have regretted, if he had stopped him from entering into that very creditable explanation which he had offered to the court; and he was sure the court would agree with him in opinion, considering that Major Carnac was the immediate successor of Col. Walker, that it was hardly possible for him to pass over a reflection which, in the absence of explanation, must appear to have been intended for himself.

Col. L. Stanhope said, great credit was due to the hon. proprietor who had brought forward this question; but he conceived that

that it was not fair for the hon. baronet (Sir C. Forbes), after he had allowed the hon. mover to read fifty or sixty pages of manuscript, to stop his gallant friend (Major Carnac) in reading a few paragraphs. The hon. mover had divided the subject into two branches. First, he described the horrid practice of widow-burning; and secondly, he drew their attention to the means of preventing it, by prohibitory measures; or, in other words, by force. With respect to the first part of this question, the hon. mover had painted, in true and frightful colours, the horrors of the system, and he had contended, that few of those victims approved of being burned alive; so far, he thought his argument completely triumphant. But then came his prohibitory remedy, or remedy of force; and he had, on that point, quoted many high authorities—those of Sir W. Jones, of the Marquis Wellesley, of the judges, and of many of the most eminent of our public servants. These were great authorities, no doubt, but he could quote an authority still greater than those—the authority of experience. He contended, that there was no maxim in politics better bottomed than this: “that opinions cannot be put down by force; and that they could alone be put down by the influence of reason.” In that respect he thought that the government of British India had conducted itself most wisely, in acting on the philosophical principles of the most perfect and unlimited religious freedom. This was the proper course for that government to have pursued. All experience shewed the wisdom of it, and the folly of an opposite description of policy. The prohibitory measures which the hon. gentleman had recommended, would not, in all probability, be attended with any immediate evil consequences, but they would produce universal discontent in the minds of the Hindoos; and on the first occasion of civil commotion or war, the whole Hindoo race would rise against the oppressors of their religious opinion. He would not follow the hon. gentleman in making a speech seven hours long (*laughter*) in order to prove to the court, what was or ought to be within the reach of the most ordinary understanding, namely, that religious opinions never have, either in Europe, Asia, or any other part of the earth, been put down by force and violence. Though he would not go into the history of Europe, yet he would make some few observations which bore on this point with respect to what had taken place in Hindoostan. The object of all the Mahomedan and European conquerors and legislators had been, to promote the pure worship of God, to prevent the burning of widows, the drowning of sick men, the destroying of children, and the worship of 30,000,000 of gods, whom the Hindoos

were known to adore. And what had been the result of their exertions? Why, the native mind was provoked and excited; perpetual wars had followed; and, worse than all, what the hon. gentleman had told them in his seven hours’ speech had happened, the obnoxious practices had increased. That enlightened ruler, Mahmoud, had tried, by force of arms, to put down this monstrous practice of suttee, and to introduce a new religion. And what was the result? Why, widow-burning flourished more than ever. Aungzeb tried the same plan; and, on his death-bed, in a letter to his son, had the wisdom to acknowledge the folly of his conduct. To come to a more recent period. What had Tippoo Sultan done? He strove to suppress that horrid burning of widows; he endeavoured to destroy the Hindoo worship; he made slaves of the people, and had them circumcised; he threw down the Hindoo temples, leaving only four standing; he made them eat beef broth, and did a hundred other things hateful to the Hindoos. And what, after all, was the result? Why, the practice of immolating widows continued to increase rather than to diminish. Now, let them look to the European governments. The Portuguese had set up the inquisition at Goa, and by their intolerance maddened, instead of converting, the people from their idolatry. By their barbarous persecutions they drove the Syrian Christians into the mountains, and destroyed their books. Again, what was the result of all these violent proceedings? Why, that which the hon. gentleman had stated to them in his seven hours’ speech, (*laughter*) the practices which were thus attempted to be removed were strengthened, not discouraged. They all knew the excellent character and pure intentions of the missionaries; their object was the same as that of the hon. gentleman; they also would put down these sacrifices. What was the result here? What good had they effected? What conversions had taken place? Where had the suttees been abandoned? The result was precisely the same as in the other cases: their efforts had failed. He spoke of the missionaries with great respect; for he sincerely believed they were the very best men that left this country; but still he said their efforts had produced no favourable result whatever. A Danish missionary, 100 years ago, had stated, that the only way to put down this gross idolatry, and to remove these monstrous practices, was through the medium of education (as recommended by the hon. Director who spoke last), and by means of a free press. These were the words of that missionary:—“The press being set up, has proved so favourable to our design, that we may thank God for this hopeful benefaction.” The hon. gentleman had talked

talked of the influence of reason. Reason, no doubt, was paramount over informed and cultivated minds; but where the mind was sunk in idolatry and bigotry, what influence could reason assume over it? Would not obstinacy, and a hatred of innovation, be the leading feelings in minds of this description? Could they expect reason in men who worshipped 30,000,000 of gods; whose religion tolerated 1,000,000 of fakirs, or begging priests; whose brahmins did not allow their flocks to read any book contrary to their tenets; who destroyed children, drowned their sick, and burned their widows; did they expect reason amongst such people as these? The remedy was a clear and plain one, namely, the extension of education, and the establishment of a free press. The heathen religion, as the hon. gentleman had told them, was put down by these means; and the Hindoo religion would sink before the same power, but it could be got rid of in no other manner. The superstitionists of different religions are not very unlike each other. Look to the idolatrous Christians when they came to Calicut. They bowed down to idols there, thinking they were the same idols which they had left in Portugal. The fakirs forbade the reading of the sacred books at all. And he thought the *auto-da-fé* of the Inquisition was quite as bad, and, in fact, a great deal worse than the burning of these widows; for the hon. gentleman had told them that, however abominable those doings were, yet, in the minds of the women who performed those sacrifices, he did not doubt but that their conduct proceeded from a high and excellent feeling of virtue, according to their misconception. The vices of popery, the restoration of learning, and the establishment of a free press, had beaten down the Christian superstition; and the Hindoo religion, which had become corrupt (though in its origin few religions were more pure), would fall before the same powerful engine. If the same means were resorted to, they would produce the same effect in British India as they had produced in Europe. But, if they had recourse to force, for the purpose of attaining this object, the result would be that universal discontent would fill the minds of the natives, and, on the first favourable occasion, they would rise up against the British power. The consequence would be, the continuation of those bloody wars which had desolated the Eastern world, and not only the continuation, but the increase of this practice. Under these circumstances, if the hon. gentleman was under the influence of reason, and not of passion, he called on him to withdraw his motion, and to support the following amendment:—

“That in the opinion of this Court, though little has been done to reform the Hindoo super-

stition, or to convert the natives to Christianity, the government of British India has at all times acted upon the philosophical principles of unlimited toleration, and has thereby secured the good will of its subjects.

“That the inhuman custom of burning Hindoo widows cannot be prevented by prohibitory edicts, *id est*, by force, without exciting the discontent of millions, and, soon or late, provoking religious wars, and ultimately increasing these frightful sacrifices; and

“That the only safe means of promoting among the Hindoos the pure worship of God, and of preventing the burning of widows, the crushing of victims at Juggernaut, and the drowning of sick persons in the Ganges, &c. &c., is to be found in virtuous education and free discussion, as practised under the administration of the Marquess of Hastings.”

Gen. Thornton rose to second the amendment. He entirely concurred in the principle of it, and felt great pleasure in giving it his entire concurrence. With respect to the speech of the hon. and learned mover of the original motion, it was enough to fill a huge volume; indeed he thought there would have been no end of it, and that the learned gentleman would have gone on for a month; luckily, however, he had concluded at last, after trespassing on their attention only for seven hours. Yet to what had his lengthened arguments and voluminous documents tended? To prove that which nobody doubted; namely, that the practice of suttee was barbarous and cruel, and that the sooner it was put an end to the better. Upon that principle they all agreed, and the long time which the learned gentleman took to establish it, was all spent in a work of supererogation.—(*Hear, hear!*) The question before the court was not whether this practice should be abolished, but whether the mode in which it was sought to abolish it might not be productive of greater evil than the mischief itself; whether thus pushing on the directors to the adoption of any hasty measures, might not be calculated to produce very serious consequences in India. The practice of suttee was bound up with the strong prejudices of the natives. It was not an enjoined act of their religion, but the result of a prejudice arising from a mistaken construction of their religion, and being founded in prejudice, it would be therefore more difficult to overcome. Even the Christian religion had suffered much from the introduction of prejudices. And unfortunately there was very little of it existing without them; and unfortunately it was found, that there were many who adhered more firmly to the prejudice than to the religion itself. The practice of suttee, as he had observed, was only permitted by the Hindoo religion; but still he conceived that any attempt to put it down by force would be attended with incalculable mischief, and would risk the overthrow of our authority in India. Indeed, in looking to the speech of the hon. and learned mover, he was rather surprised that such arguments should be concluded

concluded by such a motion. That motion called on the court to do what they had already done. The Court of Directors had already taken those steps which he now desired.—(*Hear, hear!*) The learned gentleman had disavowed any wish for the adoption of any violent means: what was it then which he sought to prove by his long oration? did he believe that all those great men, whose services had been so valuable in India, were indifferent on this important subject? Why did not the learned gentleman give credit for humanity, for an anxious desire to put this custom down, to Lord Wellesley, Lord Cornwallis, to Sir George Barlow, to Lord Minto, to the Marquess of Hastings? Why should he suppose that the Marquess of Hastings had not as much of the milk of human kindness in him as the learned gentleman himself? He believed that all who knew that noble Lord would readily admit that he possessed as kind a heart as ever warmed a human breast, and that he would not have hesitated to adopt any measures for the abolition of this barbarous practice, if he saw that those measures were practicable, consistently with the safety of the Company's power in India. If he had not taken any active measures, the inference was natural, that his knowledge of the country had led him to believe that any very active measures of interference with this practice could not be adopted with safety. Why should the learned gentleman have assumed that Lord Amherst was not disposed to put down this practice? From every thing he (Gen. Thornton) had learned of his Lordship, he believed him to be a man of great humanity and kindness; and if he had not interfered, he thought it must have been because he felt fully convinced of the danger of such interference. An interference of this kind would, in his (Gen. Thornton's) opinion, be attended with considerable risk. Force would never put it down. On this subject he had listened with attention to what had fallen from the hon. director (Major Carnac), and he entirely concurred with him. To the learned gentleman (Mr. Poynder), who had no acquaintance with India save in theory, nothing appeared more easy than the abolition of this practice. But to those great and distinguished men whom he (General Thornton) had named, and who were well and practically acquainted with India, nothing appeared more difficult. They were well aware of the dangers and difficulties of such an undertaking, and they wisely refrained from an attempt which might have such mischievous consequences. He would repeat, that the abolition of suttee must be the result of general dissemination of the benefits of education, and the influence of improved moral habits. The means al-

ready adopted by the court tended very strongly to put an end to the system in the only way in which it could ever be abolished; the amendment put the question in its true light, and on these grounds it should have his support. (*Hear, hear!*)

Capt. Maxfield and the Chairman rose at the same moment to address the court, but the former gave way; and

The Chairman proceeded. He was anxious at this period to address a few words to the court; and their chief recommendation would be, that they should be very short, and perhaps might tend much to shorten the discussion. In the first place he begged to observe, that the motion of the learned gentleman was altogether unnecessary, as it only called on the court to do that which they had already done, and were doing. If the learned gentleman had introduced his motion in a true spirit of prudent conciliation, it would have proved far from unacceptable. (*Hear, hear!*) But the learned gentleman had gone much beyond his own motion; and he (the Chairman) must say, that light and darkness were not more different than the motion of the learned gentleman and the speech which advocated it (*Hear, hear!*), for if he contended for any thing, it was for the principle of putting down the practice of suttee by authority. He therefore found himself in the unusual situation of having to argue against the learned gentleman's speech, while he had but little objection to his motion; a situation by which he was placed in no slight difficulty. The learned proprietor had quoted authorities out of number of those who were favourable to putting down the practice by force. Now, if he were disposed to indulge himself, or rather to punish the court, by making a speech as long as that of the learned gentleman, he could quote as large a number of authorities which went directly the other way. (*Hear, hear!*) The learned gentleman had only quoted those which were favourable to his view of the case; but as he (the Chairman) did not wish to waste the time of the court by reading in detail the opinions of those who took the same view of it that he did, he should refrain from quoting those of the many eminent men connected with the Indian government, who were unanimous in declaring that all attempts to put down the practice of suttee by force were not only inexpedient, but, to a certain extent, dangerous. If this were not so, why had not the honourable individuals, whom the learned gentleman had so often quoted, some of whom, he it observed, held the supreme authority, and whose sound judgment and great humanity no one ever could or did doubt; why, he asked, with the disposition ascribed to them of putting an end to this practice, had they not adopted some active measures

for its abolition. It was certain they had not; the fair inference to be drawn, then, from that fact was, that they had never considered the attempt as one which could be made with safety. The learned gentleman had alluded to a paper written by Mr. Hudleston on this subject, in which that gentleman spoke of the expediency of putting an end to the practice. Now it should be recollected that Mr. Hudleston had been a member of the government in India; but during the whole time of his employment he (the Chairman) never heard of his having adopted any measure for obtaining that object. He, therefore, with every respect for that gentleman's opinion, must refuse his belief in the prudence of measures only recommended by him when his own responsibility had ceased. Nor did he think that, having omitted to act while he himself was responsible, his subsequently formed opinions should be considered sufficient to throw the load upon their shoulders. The learned gentleman dwelt much upon what he was pleased to term the difference of opinion which existed in the Court of Directors on this subject. Now he begged to say, that there were only two whose opinions at all approached near to those of the learned proprietor; but as those two gentlemen were now no longer in the direction, he could state that the Court of Directors were unanimous in their opinions, and that there could not be found one amongst them who would advocate what the learned proprietor had recommended, not in his motion, but in his speech. (*Hear, hear!*) In anticipating the objections which might be made to his motion, the learned gentleman had remarked, that if some immediate measures were not adopted to put down the practice, he supposed they must wait for its abolition until the general introduction of Christianity in India. Now, anxious as he (the Chairman) was that these barbarous sacrifices should be discontinued, he should be very sorry to have to rest his hopes on their extinction until then; for he thought that that event was infinitely more distant than the hon. proprietor would be willing to believe: his own opinion was, that the general introduction of Christianity into India was as hopeless a case as had been ever meditated. (*Hear, hear!*) If ever the practice should be discontinued, it could be effected only by the diffusion of education and knowledge in that country, and to that point the attention of the executive body had been long, and he should hope not ineffectually directed. (*Hear, hear!*) He held in his hand an account of a series of institutions which had been established in different parts of India, all of which had for their object the diffusion of knowledge amongst the natives, and the improvement of their moral conduct.

These institutions, numerous as they were, evinced the sincere desire of the Court of Directors and of the local government to promote those important objects, and he could state that the annual expense now incurred in the prosecution of the means which the Company had adopted for the improvement of their native subjects, did not amount to less than four lacs of rupees. (*Hear, hear!*) To this he might add, and he begged in the most explicit manner to state, that the Court of Directors were collectively and individually as anxious as the hon. proprietor, or as any other man or description of men could be, to forward the objects which his (Mr. Poynder's) motion had in view. The only difference between them and the hon. proprietor was, as to the mode by which that end could best be obtained. And on this point he would contend that the prudent and cautious manner in which the Court of Directors had proceeded might be seen in the instructions sent out by them to the local government, which had been read to the court the other day. Another letter which had been also read, proved that the just views of the government abroad, upon this subject, were quite in unison with the feelings of the directors at home. He earnestly wished, therefore, that the court would come to the determination of leaving the measures necessary for the attainment of this object to the prudence of the executive body, pledging himself that there was no party, or individual, in that court who felt more deeply the propriety, or was more anxious for the success of those measures, which might ultimately, but safely, put an end to a practice so barbarous and so disgraceful to any government by which it might be encouraged; at the same time it should be recollected, that there was a vast difference between the acts of a government which encouraged, and those which only permitted an abuse. (*Hear, hear!*) This question could not be considered as one solely of humanity, as the hon. proprietor had declared; it should be recollected that it was also one of policy and safety. He did not mean to contend that the attempt to put down the practice by force would produce a general or an immediate insurrection: but when he recollected what happened at Vellore, he thought that a very useful lesson might be derived as applicable to the present case. He was quite convinced that the mutiny at that place, though ascribed to an attempted alteration in the dress of the sepoys, had no more to do with that fact than any other circumstance however remote; but when the descendants of Tippoo wished to raise an insurrection in the fortress, the Mahometans made use of the alteration in the dress of the sepoys, as a means of seducing them to revolt. Now he thought that something similar might happen in the case of suttee if it

were put down by legislative enactment; no insurrection would probably be the immediate consequence—yet he had no doubt whatever, that the first moment any other cause of discontent occurred, that circumstance of interference with their religious habits and prejudices would be anxiously seized by the Brahmins, who would strongly advert to the abolition for the purpose of exciting the natives to revolt; and the court in sanctioning such a course as that now proposed, would afford a plausible ground for the insurrection. It was on these grounds that he felt himself bound to express his dissent, not indeed from the learned gentleman's motion, for that was quite a different thing, but from the principles maintained in the speech by which he had introduced it. To the motion itself, he repeated, he had no objection; but he was in this difficult situation, that he could not give his assent to it, without appearing to sanction the speeches of the two learned supporters of the motion, in which other and more coercive means than those professed in the motion were pointed out. Judging from those speeches, he was convinced that something very different from the moderation conveyed by the motion was intended. Now to that something, which was adverted to with sufficient clearness to make him understand that the use of force was contemplated as a means of abolishing suttee, he most decidedly objected. If an opportunity had been afforded him, it was his intention to have moved an amendment, which would put the question on its safest and best ground, by leaving it entirely to the discretion of the Court of Directors. This amendment (if the amendment of the gallant Colonel had not stood in the way) would also go to convince the proprietors of the anxious wish of the Court of Directors to obtain the object which the learned proprietor had in view. However, if he now moved this, it would be by way of amendment on amendment, and that would be an inconvenient, if not an irregular course.

Mr. S. Dixon suggested that perhaps the gallant Colonel would withdraw his amendment, in order to make way for that of the hon. Chairman, as the object of both was the same.

Col. Stanhope.—“I must first hear it read.”

The Chairman then read the following amendment:

“That whilst the court deeply deplores the existence of suttees and other rites involving the sacrifice of human life in India, it reposes the fullest confidence in the anxious disposition of the local governments, to give effect to the instructions of the Court of Directors, by adopting from time to time such measures as may be deemed necessary for effectually and safely accomplishing the abolition of those practices.”

“That this court firmly relies on the earnest solicitude of the Court of Directors to follow up so desirable an object, with a due regard to the feelings and prejudices of the natives of India.”

Col. Stanhope observed, that having heard the amendment read, he had no hesitation in saying that he concurred in every word of it; and as it might facilitate the object which he, in common with the Court of Directors, had in view, he would with the leave of the court, very willingly withdraw his motion. (*Hear, hear!*)

General Thornton expressed his approval of the Chairman's amendment, and gave his assent to the withdrawal of the motion.

The Chairman thanked the gallant officer (Col. Stanhope) for his courtesy on this occasion.

The original motion and amendment were now put from the chair.

Mr. Weeding observed that in supporting the original motion, he begged to assure the court that it did not arise from any want of confidence on his part in their executive body: for if the motion had not left to the Court of Directors the full discretion of devising the best means for putting an end to practices which all of them condemned, he should not have been found one of the supporters of it. To tolerate, however, such practices by the mode now adopted in India, was to encourage them; and after perusing the documents before the court, he was compelled to admit, that the letter of the Bengal government of the 3d of December 1824, did not appear to breathe the same spirit on the subject as the court's letter of the 17th of June 1823, to which it professed to be an answer. In the pursuit of his argument it was not his intention to detain the court by any lengthened discussion on the religious customs of the Hindoos, and on the many absurd and vicious practices which prevailed among them. His purpose would be to come immediately to the subject before the court—to consider the circumstances under which human sacrifices were now permitted in India, and whether it were expedient or not to interfere for their prevention.

The forms under which those sacrifices appeared were principally threefold—the exposure and destruction of female infants; the exposure and destruction of the sick and aged; and the immolation of Hindoo widows for they were not always burned—they were sometimes buried alive. Infanticide, and the destruction of the old and infirm, being deemed crimes, and punished as such, were points on which he should not trouble the court. He should principally consider the sacrifice of Hindoo widows, because this practice was, under certain circumstances, openly and undisguisably tolerated and sanctioned by the British government in India. It was uni-

versally admitted that the religion of the Hindoos did not enjoin any such practice; their religious books, or shasters as they were called, did not command the ceremony they only permitted it. It was said, however, that custom had sanctioned it, and it was alleged, that to interfere with this custom would create disaffection to their government in India. Now in order to consider the extent of the danger, it would be necessary to take into consideration the extent of the practice. That it was a custom which had taken deep root among the natives of India generally, he begged leave to deny, and for proof of this he appealed to the experience of persons best acquainted with India, and more especially to the papers before the court, which shewed, on the authority of those best qualified to judge, that the practice might be abolished not only without danger, but without difficulty. (*Hear, hear!*) He should proceed to examine into the nature of the facts first, and then he should be able to reason with more satisfaction and better effect as to the alleged and anticipated danger. In this examination they were much assisted by the returns which had been made to Parliament from Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, of the number of women that were burned from the year 1819 to 1823 inclusive. In the provinces subject to the Bengal government, the average number yearly was 612. From Madras the return was for three years only, the average of which was sixty-one yearly. From Bombay, the average number for the five years ending in 1823, was forty-nine yearly. Now it would be admitted, he thought, by the court, that this number of such sacrifices, in territories which contained so many millions of people, and principally Hindoos, was so small, that it could not be considered as a custom of the country. It was rather an exception than a rule; it was a proof rather of the indisposition than of the attachment of the people, and afforded reason to believe that, in the opinion of the large majority of the people of India, it was a practice for which they had no predilection, which was abhorrent to their social nature, and would be more honoured in the breach than the observance. If he were to stop here, under this view of the case even, it might be permitted to him to inquire where the danger could be of interfering to prevent the continuance of the practice. The mass of the people were against it. What had they to apprehend from the disaffection of a few, supposing, which he did not believe, that it would follow, when the people at large were in their favour. He might be asked, perhaps, for the proof of this? He answered, that it was a natural and necessary inference from the infrequency of the practice, and he should presently state to them other reasons why

it was more than probable that in permitting the practice, they were offending, egregiously offending, the moral and social feeling of the people of India. In furtherance of his argument he would ask, had the practice of acting in other instances contrary to the religious creed of the Hindoos been attended with any injurious consequences? Most gentlemen knew that the cow was an animal held in great reverence by the Hindoos, and in their shasters, or religious scriptures, the life of a cow was deemed of much greater consequence than the life of a Sudra, and in some parts of the shasters it was reckoned equal to that of a Brahmin. It was ordained, also, that all penances might be commuted on the payment of cows or money. Thus for killing a Chshytria (or Hindoo of the second caste) forty-five cows and as many calves must be paid, or 135 kahans of cowries. For murdering a Sudra (or Hindoo of the lower caste) twelve cows or thirty-six kahans of cowries. Now he would ask, did the British government allow this commutation of the penalty of crime in India, where British sway prevailed? Did they not punish with death the murderer, whether Hindoo or European, and had they ever been afraid of exciting insurrection or tumult by the justice of such a punishment? If then they did not hesitate to convict and to punish with a severity, which the religion of the Hindoo would mitigate and disallow the murderer of another, why did they hesitate to prevent the commission of self-murder? In the one instance a life was taken away by the constituted authorities of the state, as a due penance for the destruction of a fellow creature, without hesitation, and without fear of the consequences; while on the other a reluctance was manifested to save, by interference, the life of a fellow creature, as if a preventive measure were not far less obnoxious than an aggressive one—as if to prevent were not much easier than to punish. A reluctance was manifested to save by interference the life of a fellow creature, the sacrifice of which, by the will of the individual, was alike repugnant to the dictates of nature and to the well-being of society. There was no instance in which the decisions of the Indian courts in inflicting capital punishments had created disturbance, or called forth any opposition from the natives. If they disregarded, then, the customs and religion of the Hindoos in points of such importance, not only without fear but with good effect, what danger could arise from the measure now proposed, which went to save instead of to destroy, to prevent instead of to punish crime. (*Hear, hear!*) It was curious to observe the nature of the opposition which had been made on this occasion, by two or three hon. proprietors, and particularly by
that

one hon. and gallant gentleman, who had warmly supported on other occasions the liberty of the press in India. Their principal objection was, that the mover of the proposition had taken seven hours in recording his facts and delivering his sentiments. To the liberty of speech, then, it seemed, they had a strong objection, while they would scatter with indifference the liberty of the press, from the mountains of Thibet to Cape Comorin, and from the Indus to the Irawaddy. He (Mr. Weed- ing) envied not the head or the heart of that man whose sensibility could not have been moved, and whose understanding could not have been instructed, by the recital which had been made to them.— (*Hear, hear!*) For his own part he would say, that it was one of the best speeches he had heard in that court. The instances which had been quoted by the hon. gentleman (Mr. Poynder) were sufficient to shew, that interference with an old custom, or a custom sanctioned by the religious prejudices of the natives, would not be attended with danger to the Company's interests. He should himself advert to some, though at the risk of repetition. One instance was remarkable. It was at an annual festival held at Gunga Saugor, where mothers were accustomed to bring their children and to offer them as sacrifices to the Ganges. The Marquess Wellesley, during his government, to his honour put an end to the practice. It was prohibited at the commencement of the festival, in the presence of thousands. No resistance was offered; no wailings were heard; but perfect obedience followed. The mothers went back to their homes with their children, and in a few years learned to bless the interposing hand which had saved them from destruction. (*Hear, hear!*) In the province of Guzerat, infanticide was abolished by public order; and in Central India Sir John Malcolm related that the rajah of Pertaubghur had put an end to the practice within his dominions for thirty-eight years. A neighbouring prince had done the same. Looking indeed at the natural morality of man in all countries, at his feelings and his interests in all conditions of society, it was impossible to believe that the natives of India could be disquieted by an interference which prevented the sacrifice of their sisters and their daughters. (*Hear, hear!*) In urging the question, it did not appear to him necessary to bring into view the obligations and the motives of the Christian faith, as they were not discouraging of a practice which prevailed in a Christian country; but he pressed it upon them on the ground of its immoral tendency, and the obvious policy, as it appeared to him, of putting an end to it. He maintained, that as the sovereign of India, it was their duty and their interest

to guard the public morals of their subjects; to protect the honest and the weak against the artifices of the designing and the powerful; to encourage the practice of social virtue, and to deter from bad and vicious example. No man could doubt that public morals were violated; that vicious example was set, when a mother, because a widow, was permitted publicly to destroy herself; to violate the sacred obligations of maternal duty; to desert her offspring, however young and helpless, whatever might be the real or the pretended motive. (*Hear, hear!*) Its pernicious influence upon society, in another point of view, was equally apparent. A rich man died: his widow inherited a portion, or the whole of his property; that property became the envied object of her children or collateral relations: the possession of it could only be acquired by her destruction. A "suttee" presented the ready means! It gratified at once their cupidity and their pride. The children of the parent joined the priests, who always derived an interest from the ceremony, to persuade the unhappy victim of their avarice to submit to an untimely and a painful death. Thus were all the obligations of social life at once violated and destroyed. (*Hear, hear!*) He repeated, was it not their policy, as well as their duty, to prevent the vicious examples which those barbarous practices diffused through the country? What moral principle could be expected from men, who saw, unmoved, the immolation of women deserting the offspring they were bound to cherish and protect? What could be expected from those who encouraged the son to set fire to the pile which was to consume his only remaining parent? (*Hear, hear!*)

He would now ask, and he thought he might do it with effect, on what ground rested their dread of interference to put an end to these practices? As the governors of India, what allegiance could they expect from subjects who were engaged in them? Could they hope for the obedience of the heart, or for any other obedience than that which was the result of fear? If they could not, then in what worse situation would they be after putting down this demoralizing practice? Those who took a different view, appeared to him to invert all order of reasoning on the subject. The real ground for fear was in the continuance, not in the abolition of the practice. (*Hear, hear!*) Men who could so easily stifle and forsake the ordinary feelings and duties of humanity, were fitted to become the lawless disturbers of the public peace. They were "ripe for stratagems and wiles." It was for their political security, then, as well as for their moral credit, that he pressed upon them the necessity of putting an end to the practice. Instead of disaffection arising from

from their interference, it would be followed by the sympathies and benediction of the natives. The natural morality of the people would be both their support and their commendation. (*Hear!*) In all countries, the rankest in superstition, the darkest in ignorance, some system of natural morality was always found to prevail. Sir Wm. Jones (who would be deemed no mean authority on this head, and he was here discoursing of the Asiatic tribes) had remarked, that among the most ignorant nations, where not a vestige of philosophy was to be found, "natural ethics" would be met with, because they were what the " *rudest society requires, and what experience teaches.*" The people of India, notwithstanding their numerous superstitions, possessed this moral feeling, and he contended again it was the duty and the interest of the government to uphold it. In exemplifying his argument he would borrow a quotation, with which they had been favoured by the hon. proprietor who introduced the original motion,

"*Homo sum, humani nil a me alienum puto.*"

Most gentlemen would recollect having read these words with pleasure in their youth, and that they were repeated on the Roman stage two hundred years before the Christian era. The audience, which consisted of barbarians, of foreigners, of conquered nations, of allies and of citizens of Rome, shouted with applause to hear a declaration, which in the simple and eloquent language of nature recommended so powerfully the natural morality, the social virtues of man. Let the East-India Company, then, in putting down this nefarious practice, proclaim to the people of India that they cherished the same sentiment, and that they desired to see it cherished amid all the social relations of that land. Let it not be forgotten, that by the abolition of the practice they would save in future many families from affliction; they would save all from consternation: for who could tell into whose house next the vicious example might obtrude itself? Dean Paley, in his moral philosophy, had justly observed, that "society at large must be kept in continual alarm for the fate of their dearest friends and relations, when the restraints of morality are withdrawn by the toleration of such a practice as self-murder." He intreated, then, their executive body, with that discretion, humanity and justice, which he was proud to say, as a member of that Company, did generally mark their counsels—he intreated them to interpose, in order to rescue the people of India from the continuance of this moral turpitude; in order to rescue the East-India Company and the British Government from all participation in it. It was not a custom founded on any positive rule; it was partial and local: it was owing principally to

the disingenuous efforts of interested individuals; and it was unhappily encouraged by the sanction now given to it by the public authorities in India. Its abolition, instead of disturbing, would add to the strength and stability of their government, inasmuch as all men became better subjects in proportion as they were better citizens. He conjured them, then, to put an end to the practice without delay; to be firm, and fear not. They would have this reward, that in India, as well as in Britain, the prevailing wish with regard to their dominion would be "*esto perpetua.*" (*Hear, hear, hear!*)

Mr. R. Jackson said that it was more than twelve months since he had first called the attention of the court to those dreadful scenes of assassination which were allowed to take place in India; but he confessed that at that time he was not aware of the great extent to which those barbarous practices had prevailed, nor could he have imagined that they would have been suffered to exist without some attempt on the part of the Company's executive to put them down. At that time he had no idea that thousands and thousands of helpless women and children had been sacrificed, without some effort of interference on the part of the Company for the abolition of rites so horrid! He had delayed bringing forward the subject, because he knew it was about to be in much better hands. It was to be brought forward in another place by an honourable individual, not less distinguished for his talents and upright conduct as a senator, than for his amiable qualities and his general benevolence as a private gentleman. In the hands of that distinguished individual, he was sure the subject would be treated as its merits required. At the same time he must observe, that as the subject had been so ably introduced to their notice by the hon. gentleman (Mr. Poynder), the court were bound to mark their decided opinion of it, without waiting for what might be done elsewhere, and he thought it could not be done more effectually than by the court's assent to the motion before them. The great difficulties which any motion from that side of the bar had to encounter, might be judged of from the prejudice opposed to that now before the court. Though they were a body clothed by the Legislature with deliberative functions, and bound by their oaths to exercise those functions, whenever they felt it necessary, for the common benefit of themselves, or the advantage of their native subjects; yet, whenever any attempt of the kind originated with the general court, however humane their object or unobjectionable their proposition, it was at once met by the stale, common-place, forty times repeated remark, "you had better leave the matter to the discretion of the directors."

Why,

Why, if the papers before the court were true, the matter had been left to their discretion for upwards of thirty years, and what had they done? Nothing whatever. (*Hear, hear!*) He contended, therefore, that the executive had incurred a load of guilt, if during this time they had made no effort to support the endeavours of so many of their most eminent servants abroad, who had strongly advised that some means should be taken to abolish this practice, and only asked for authority to use them. In tracing back the printed proceedings, he found that from the period of the Bengal Secret Judicial Consultations in 1787, which were transmitted to this country in course, nothing had been done in the matter until the other day, when some instructions were sent out to our Indian government. In this dilatory conduct he thought their executive were exceedingly culpable, and he contended that the Court of Proprietors would become participators in their guilt, if they did not adopt the means in their power for the abolition, contrary to the law of nature, and so disgraceful to the the government in whose very presence it was practised! He owned that he went further than his honourable friend; he meant to take a bolder and a broader issue, and was willing, on that day, to stand or fall by the justice of his position; namely, that the practice of suicide, being contrary to divine and natural law, the government or authority by which it was permitted became participators in its guilt. In support of this proposition, he would beg to read the sentiments of the great commentator upon the law of England, Sir W. Blackstone, who stated, that those who permitted, having power to hinder, a crime against the law of God or man, committed a crime against both. The opinion of this learned commentator would have the greater authority with those who considered that, before he delivered it, he (Sir W. Blackstone) had himself read, and well considered, the most eminent writers upon the laws of nature and of nations then extant. It was an advantage to him (Mr. R. Jackson) that he spoke in the hearing of learned persons, who would readily confute his doctrine if erroneous, when he insisted that they (the proprietors) became participators in the guilt of those suicides (even supposing them to be voluntary), if they made no attempt towards their prevention. That the crime of self-destruction was against the law of God, no one would deny; and that it was the duty of every civilized government to enforce that law as paramount to all others, must be equally admitted. He should be ashamed to press this beyond reading the opinion of the learned judge to whom he had alluded, which having

read, it would bring him to what seemed to him the second point for their consideration; namely, the expediency of putting an end to the practice of suttee, or the burning of females alive! He would contend that they were not to enter into terms with sin and wickedness; but were bound to maintain, within their jurisdiction, the law of God and of nature, whatever might be the consequence. Mr. Justice Blackstone, in treating of this subject, said,

"This law of nature being coeval with mankind, and dictated by God himself, is of course superior in obligation to any other. It is binding over all the globe, in all countries, and at all times: no human laws are of any validity if contrary to this; and such of them as are valid, derive all their force, and all their authority, mediately or immediately, from this original."

"Upon these two foundations, the law of nature and the law of revelation, depend all human laws; that is to say, no human laws should be suffered to contradict these.—To instance, in the case of murder: this is expressly forbidden by the divine, and demonstrably by the natural law; and from these prohibitions arises the true unlawfulness of this crime. Those human laws that annex a punishment to it, do not at all increase its moral guilt, or superadd any fresh obligation *in foro conscientie* to abstain from its perpetration. Nay, if any human law should allow or enjoin us to commit it, we are bound to transgress that human law, or else we must offend both the natural and the divine."

The same learned judge defines the municipal law to be a "rule of civil conduct prescribed by the supreme power in a state, commanding what is right, and prohibiting what is wrong." Now he believed that no lawyer who heard him would deny, that a government was bound, as far as its immediate and recognized authority extended, to enforce the observance of this rule. It was not necessary, nor was a government called upon, in upholding the principles, to interfere with the laws or customs of another country; but in that which might be said to be a part of their own, and over which their absolute authority extended, the Company were bound to put an end to practices so much at variance with the laws of God and man, so opposed to natural obligation, and to divine command. In the cases before the court, not only had the authority of the Company not been used for the suppression of those barbarous outrages, but a sanction had, in fact, been given to them, they were expressly allowed under some circumstances, and attended in all by a police, acting under the authority of the British Government. That the Company were bound, as the sovereigns of the country, to suppress practices contrary to the laws of nature and our holy religion, he had already shown;—but it might be said, that a departure from the principles he had laid down might be justified by political expediency, arising from the fear of offending the natives. He would meet the objectors on that ground, and shew that, even in point of expediency, they

were not called upon to tolerate the practice, but that its suppression was perfectly within their reach; nay, that it would not have the effect of injuring them in that point where they were most sensitive—he meant in the amount of their revenue.—(*Hear, hear!*) Supposing, however, for a moment, that he was unable to prove this—supposing it could be shewn that insurrection and rebellion would follow the attempt to put down this barbarous custom, still the Company would be bound to make the attempt—they would be bound to risk the loss of their authority over that part of their Indian dominions where the practice prevailed (and it was but a very small part), rather than become participants in such dreadful guilt; they would be bound rather to forego for ever the amount of revenue which they derived from those parts of their dominion, than to accept it as the price of blood! (*Hear, hear, hear!*) This he would contend, supposing that he had been driven to view it merely as a question of policy or safety, as the Hon. Chairman had described it to be. But he was not driven to that course; his honourable friend had most ably and clearly shewn, that as a question of policy we were bound to abolish the practice, and that in point of safety we had nothing to fear from the attempt. Well, he thought, had his honourable friend deserved the thanks of the court, for the pains he had bestowed upon this subject; he would go away well rewarded for his pains, if it were only with the conviction that he had successfully endeavoured to enlighten the court on a matter of this importance, by giving to them so clear and intelligent an analysis of the contents of five volumes of papers, with which not one in a hundred of the proprietors could otherwise have become acquainted. (*Hear, hear!*) Who was it that had heard his honourable friend on this subject, that could not say he had been improved by the manner in which he had placed the whole subject before them? Yet it was said that the time of the court had been wasted—and that their patience had been exercised during a speech of seven hours long. No doubt it was easy to scatter and bandy about remarks of this sort, with the mistaken impression that they were wit.—He was surprised that the gallant Colonel (L. Stanhope), and the gallant General (Thornton) had not placed more value on the labours of his learned friend, which had relieved them from the trouble of reading, and, as it should seem, from that of thinking, for he believed it cost them very little of the one or the other. (*Hear, hear!*)—The labour of a most able speech was thus in a great degree lost upon them, who found it easier to exercise their pointed wit and keen satire upon its length (*hear, hear!*) than

to combat its humane and manly arguments. It was now forty years since the attention of the Court of Directors had been called to the discovery which had been made of the extent of this barbarous practice (and in justice to some of the Company's servants of that day he desired to state, that it was no sooner discovered by them than it was deplored, and the most humane wishes expressed for its discontinuance).—They, however, of course submitted, as it was now wished that this court should submit, that is, they left the matter entirely to the discretion and authority of the executive; and the result was, that no progress had been made towards its abolition, no effort traceable throughout the papers until a recent letter from the Court of Directors! (*Hear, hear!*) In 1805 the matter occupied the attention of the Indian Government still more especially; its continuance was the subject of inquiry, and some regulations were devised, not for the abolition of these horrid sacrifices, he was sorry to say, but to discourage them in some cases, and to prevent them in others, where they were held to be illegal by the Hindoo law. If the papers before the court were true, there were numerous cases where this practice of suttee had been illegally committed, according to the ordinances of their own Hindoo law, and where there was not even the shadow of an excuse for not interfering for their prevention. If such practices were continued longer under the authority of the Company, there was not a man in that court who did not become an accessory to the crime of murder!—he that refrained from doing all in his power to prevent it, on his head be the guilt of the sanction he gave! The practice (he was about to observe) had become more general, or more known, and in many cases so evidently illegal, that Lord Wellesley felt it necessary to take some steps upon the subject in 1805. From the proceedings of his Lordship in council on that occasion he would read a few extracts, and they should be very few. He must however observe, that the principle for which he contended seemed to have guided Lord Wellesley's conduct, namely, that it should be a fundamental maxim with government to act consistently with the principles of reason, morality, and humanity. If the practice of suttee was consistent with those principles, he (Mr. Jackson) would say, let it be continued; but if it were found repugnant to those sacred rules, then he contended that the Company would not stand acquitted of a violation of its bounden duty if it did not put them down. And here he must mention it as worthy of remark, that though forty years had now elapsed since the court first became aware of those dreadful immolations, it had never been

been submitted to their standing counsel, or to any of the law officers or judges of the land, how far the Company's executive would be justified in allowing this part of the Hindoo practice to continue within their own immediate dominions. It had never been inquired of those high legal authorities, whether, consistently with due obedience to the laws of the realm, they would be justified in tolerating practices, which they themselves admitted were nothing less than "atrocious murder!"—*(Hear, hear!)* It was stated in Lord Wellesley's minute, that certain instructions should be given to the magistrates of districts, with the view of diminishing, if not of abolishing, the practice. The most eminent of the pundits were ordered to be consulted, in order to have it ascertained to what degree the Hindoo law sanctioned the practice of suttee, for no pundit had ever maintained that it was *commanded*. On this point he had the concurrence of the Governor-general and of those of the Court of Directors, whose names were to the letter to which he had alluded, sent out to India so recently as 1823, after the business had been taken up in Parliament. They were all of opinion that there were no longer any grounds for believing that suttee was an obligation of law, but that it must be altogether a voluntary act. He would now read an extract of some of the questions proposed, and the answers given by the pundits on this subject.

No. 7.—*Question to the Pundits of the Nizamut Adawlut.*

"As it sometimes happens among persons professing the Hindoo religion, that upon the death of a man, his wife becomes a suttee, i. e. burns herself with the body of her deceased husband, you are therefore asked, whether a woman is enjoined by the shaster voluntarily to burn herself with the body of her husband, or is prohibited; and what are the conditions prescribed by the shaster on such occasions? You are desired to give an answer in the course of fifteen days.

4th March 1805."

Answer.—"Having fully considered the question proposed by the court, I now answer it to the best of my knowledge:—Every woman of the four castes (Brahmin, Khetry, Bhice, and Soodur) is permitted to burn herself with the body of her husband, provided she has not infant children, nor is pregnant, nor in a state of uncleanness, nor under the age of puberty; in any of which cases she is not allowed to burn herself with her husband's body. But a woman who has infant children, and can procure another person to undertake the charge of bringing them up, is permitted to burn. It is contrary to law, as well as to the usage of the country, to cause any woman to burn herself against her wish, by administering drugs to stupify or intoxicate her. When women burn themselves, they pronounce the sunkulp, and perform other prescribed ceremonies previously to burning. This rests upon the authority of Anjira, Vijasa, and Vrihaspati mooni.

"There are three millions and a half of hairs upon the human body, and every woman who burns herself with the body of her husband, will reside with him in heaven during a like number of years. In the same manner as a snake-catcher drags a snake from his hole, so does a woman, who burns herself, draw her husband out of hell, and she afterwards resides with him in heaven."

The exceptions above cited, respecting women in a state of pregnancy, uncleanness,

and adolescence, were communicated by Oarnt and others to the mother of Singur Raja. No woman having infant children, or being in a state of pregnancy or uncleanness, or under the age of puberty, is permitted to burn with her husband; with the following exception, namely, that if a woman having infant children can provide for their support, through the means of another person, she is permitted to burn.

Additional Question.—"In the event of a woman declaring her intention to burn with the body of her husband, and afterwards receding from such declaration, what would be the consequence and what treatment would she experience from her relations?"

Answer.—"If any woman declares her intention of burning, but afterwards recedes from her declaration, without having pronounced the sunkulp and performed other ceremonies, she is not enjoined by the shaster to undergo any *puraschit* or penance; neither is there anything contained in the law prohibiting her relations from associating with her. But if a woman, after pronouncing the sunkulp and performing other ceremonies, has not courage to proceed to the funeral pile, she may recover her purity by undergoing a severe penance, and her relations may then associate with her. The authority for this is the following passage:—'A woman who is prevented by worldly attachments from ascending the funeral pile, must perform a severe penance before she can purify herself from such an offence.'"

Mr. Jackson, in continuation, begged the attention of the court to the exceptions mentioned in those answers, and let them look at the cases of suttces recorded in the returns before them, and ask themselves whether, if due attention had been paid by the local officers of government, all those cases could have occurred. He would be as far as any man from interfering with the religious prejudices of the natives; he would not quarrel with the notions of that country as to the three million and a half of hairs and the three million and a half of years; the thing was absurd enough, to be sure; but we were not answerable for all their absurdities, though, he would contend, we were to a certain extent for their crimes. Let them enjoy their absurdities as much as they pleased, but let them not commit murder: there the question of absurdity merged in that of crime, and as far as the Company allowed the perpetration of crime they were responsible. After the information thus obtained by the government, instructions were issued for certain regulations to be observed in the cases of suttee, so as to prevent, if possible, any but those in which the strict regulations of the shaster were complied with. Amongst other things it was ordered that due notice should be given of a suttee to the police; that the necessary information should be conveyed to the resident magistrate; and that no improper treatment or force should be used towards the intended suttee.—And that previous notice should be given to the police! Now it was well known that our Indian police was among the most corrupt of that description. From the darogah

down to the meanest officer amongst them, there was not one who would not violate his duty for a bribe of rupees, and that bribery and corruption were the sources from which they maintained their extravagant mode of living there could be no doubt. It was not at all an uncommon thing for men in that class, with nominal salaries of £100 a year, to expend £300 or £500 on a single entertainment. How this expense was to be supported he need not mention. To this body, such as it was, was confided the care of seeing that the proper regulations were complied with, and if it was stated that they were, the women were then allowed to burn themselves. In the case where she had young children, a certain security was required for the due maintenance and support of the child or children after her death; and, strange and shocking as it must appear, a form was prescribed, and stamps were prepared, for the purpose of taking that security in the Company's offices. Thus the whole ceremony was performed under the authority of the local government, and in the presence of its officers! We the British people—the advocates of every thing humane—the natural opponents of every thing that was cruel and oppressive;—we the protectors of innocence, the avengers of wrong!—we the British people, sanctioned by our authority this diabolical custom;—nay, we went further, for by our neglect we permitted the practice in many cases which, even according to the barbarous doctrines of the shaster itself, were illegal! Was it possible that we should not make some effort to wipe out this stain upon our country? A kind of security, he had observed, was entered into for the support of the children under a certain age, of women about to devote themselves on the funeral pile of their husbands. But it had been found that this sort of undertaking afforded no legally binding guarantee for the future maintenance of the little orphans, and the heartless relations by whom it was given only laughed at our credulity when it was found that the security given was not worth one farthing. Would any man say that the Company was not culpable in allowing such open evasions of its own regulations? Could it be possible that our local officers should be ignorant of the extent of these atrocities? The returns before that court would show that this could not be the case—for in those returns, he found that between the years 1815 and 1821, the number of women who sacrificed, or were compelled to sacrifice themselves as suttees, amounted to 3,617, and of this number 2,619, or more than two-thirds of the whole, were burnt in the vicinity of Calcutta. (*Hear, hear!*) It appeared, indeed, that it was not deemed consistent with the dignity of the Supreme Court at Calcutta that the sacrifices should

take place in its immediate neighbourhood, but, that nuisance being avoided, the parties were allowed to take the body outside the city of Calcutta, and there, almost under the walls of the palace, and in sight of the college, the abominable ceremony was allowed to be performed. (*Hear, hear!*) He had before shown that, according to their own interpretation of the shaster, the practice of suttee must be in all cases voluntary, and that in no instance force or fraud must be used. He would go farther, and show, that abstinence from the practice, even where it might be legally performed, was considered, according to the Hindoo religion, much more meritorious, provided a certain course of life (in every woman's power) were followed. Indeed in what he was going to quote, he thought there was a direct inducement held out to abstain from burning, and that the latter practice might be considered as indirectly prohibited thereby. It was true that the shaster held out a promise to the suttee, that she should by her voluntary sacrifice, acquire a right to dwell in heaven, in the company of her husband for three millions and a half of years.—But he compared it with one with whom the shaster was comparatively a light authority—who might be considered the Moses of the Hindoos, and whose words were esteemed as the commands of heaven. The great Menu had laid it down, that though the three million and a half of years enjoyment of heaven in the company of her husband might be acquired by the woman who voluntarily burnt herself with his body, yet that that would not secure her eternal bliss, and that the only way by which a woman could acquire final beatitude, was by living a pure and chaste life after her husband's death, and devoting herself to works of piety and charity; as the reward of which, she at her death went immediately into the enjoyment of eternal happiness. From that state she was of course to return no more into the flesh, but the *suttee*, after her three million and a half of years were expired, had to come back again to this life, to put on again the human form, and be once more subject to all the vicissitudes of human existence. From this she might again obtain a temporary admission to paradise by similar means, but her eternal bliss could be in no other way secured than by living a chaste and pure life. Now it was clear from this doctrine of Menu that the practice of self-burning was not commended, but that the living purely and chastely was recommended in preference, as entitling the party to an infinitely greater reward. The strict practice of the Hindoo religion was rather against burning than otherwise; the latter custom was for the most part advised by the Brahmins and interested relations, who were in general gainers by the

the event. If some pains were taken to point out to the people in general what it was their religion did really enjoin on the subject of suttee, and the preference given in the doctrines of Menu to the passing a pure and holy widowhood, there could be no doubt that the laws of nature and the dictates of humanity would soon acquire their just influence, and the barbarous practice of self-murder would in no great length of time be altogether discontinued. (*Hear, hear!*) Much as the sanction given to this dreadful crime in some cases was to be deplored, it was still more to be lamented that it was allowed to be perpetrated in others where there was not even a pretence for it on the ground of religion; on the contrary, where it was in direct violation of the rules of the shaster. It had been that day contended by a gallant officer (Col. L. Stanhope) that those sacrifices were the voluntary acts of the women who performed them, and that as such it would be an imprudent interference with the religion of the people to offer any interruption to their expectations of eternal bliss. Even if they were all voluntary, he (Mr. Jackson) would still contend that we should be inexcusable if we did not attempt to put them down; but this argument had increased force in those cases where the suttee was attempted in cases notoriously prohibited by the shaster. That such was the fact in very many of the instances which had been reported to government, the returns before the court would afford abundant proof. In a list of sixty-two cases in which women were said to have burned themselves, there were fourteen under seventeen; twenty-two under sixteen; six under fifteen; two under fourteen; two under thirteen; ten under twelve; one under ten; three under eight; and one under four years of age. (*Hear, hear!*) This account was taken from the papers laid before the house, and now presented for the inspection of the proprietors. He would ask the gallant colonel what kind of consent to this horrid immolation could have been given by creatures of the tender years he had mentioned? Where, he asked, was the reasoning faculty which led them to hope for eternal bliss? Where was the voluntary assent to this most dreadful death in an infant of four years old, or even in one of eight or nine? (*Hear, hear!*) Would the gallant colonel, or the gallant general (Thornton) or any other member of that court, stand up and assert that the consent given by these infants was the result of reason and reflection? (*Hear, hear!*) Would the hon. Chairman maintain that in cases of suttee at such tender ages, the law of the shaster or the instructions of the government had been complied with? But these were not the only points on which the regulations of the local govern-

ment were allowed to be evaded; let any man look at the returns and see the vast number of instances in which the woman was persuaded to sacrifice herself without any notice being given to the local authorities. Here, again, the venality of the native police officer was evident; the offer of a handful of rupees would be sufficient at any time to induce him to be out of the way, so that the notice could not be given; or if in the way, he did not arrive at the scene of action until all interference became too late. The Europeans in office were of course too dignified to attend to any of these matters personally. The affair was left to the vigilance of the native police, and the superintendence of the deroogah; and the latter was frequently in real or pretended ignorance of the transaction, until it had been terminated in the death of the unfortunate suttee. Nothing was more easy than to be ignorant of that which one did not want to know, and wherever it was the interest of these persons to be ignorant, the whole matter was sure to remain unknown until the knowledge of it became of no use. Looking at facts as they stood recorded, he called upon the court to consider the great responsibility which attached to them if they allowed these barbarous murders to be continued when they had the means of preventing them. That the great body of the proprietors were hitherto ignorant of the extent to which those murders had been carried, he had reason to believe. For himself he would say, that until he had seen the returns before the court, he could not have believed that the practice was permitted to the extent it had been, with such means of prevention at hand. To-day he was an innocent man, but should he go from that court innocent if, after what had come to his knowledge on this subject, he did not make every effort to release himself from participation in crimes? Every man in that court was nearly in the same situation; not one of them could lay his hand to his heart to-morrow and say he was guiltless, if to-day he did not use every means in his power to put a stop to those cowardly barbarities. But it would seem, according to some of the opinions he had heard delivered on this subject, that the Company's servants were too busy to attend to such matters. An instance of this kind had been given in one of the cases cited by his hon. friend (Mr. Poynder). Application was made to a local magistrate for leave for a young widow to burn herself. The parties applying seemed to know their time, and chose the hour when the worthy gentleman was going out to dinner. The loss of a human life, and that too by the most dreadful torments, was not of sufficient consequence to delay the important business of his engagements, and

and he gave his consent without much inquiry into the circumstances, though if he had enquired as was his duty to have done, he would have discovered, what was found out when it was too late, that the child thus sacrificed, whether a betrothed or an actual wife did not appear, was under twelve years of age, and consequently that her burning, even according to Hindoo law was illegal, which considers sixteen as the age of puberty. No such fact was ascertained by the magistrate, but he despatched the applicant with a verbal message to his darogah or other subordinate, that "if she were not under twelve years of age they might proceed to burn her!" (*Hear, hear!*)

Was not this, he (Mr. Jackson) would ask, contrary to the instructions which the government of India had sent to the several local magistrates? Was it not a case the recurrence of which should be rendered impossible by the timely interference of that court? But there were a variety of other points in which the instructions of the Indian government, and the regulations of the shaster with respect to suttee, were wholly disregarded. The answers of the pundits which he had read to the court stated, that after the pile was made up and lighted, the woman who had intended to burn herself might without disgrace retreat, that she might do so even after she had touched the flames. According to the instructions of the Indian government she should be allowed to do so; it was declared to be highly criminal to force her back, and that should her death ensue from such force it should be considered as murder. But, notwithstanding this declaration, the instructions were set at naught with impunity, and that too even in the vicinity of Calcutta. In that neighbourhood, and in other places within the province of Bengal, instead of a pile of already lighted wood which the shaster enjoined, a pit was dug, in which, acting under the persuasions of interested relatives and the excitement of drugs given to her for that purpose, the unfortunate female, whom the gallant Colonel (Stanhope) would call "a reasoning animal," placed herself. The pit was immediately filled up with heavy logs of wood, and frequently bamboos were placed over it, so as to make retreat almost next to impossible. The fire was then applied to the pile, and the cries of the unhappy victim were drowned with the noise of drums and other instruments, amidst the shouts and howlings of a barbarous populace. Now these things were altogether at variance with the instructions which had been issued to the local magistrates by the Indian government. They were contrary to the enactments of the Hindoo religion, which enjoined that the fire

should be lighted before the suttee ascended the pile. In some instances after the fire had reached the body, and notwithstanding the efforts to keep the wretched woman down, the sense of pain had given her strength to disengage herself, when her convulsive efforts to escape had been counteracted by the violent resistance of her relations, who uniformly, unless when prevented by the police, forced her back into the flames. (*Hear, hear, hear!*) Let those who doubted what he said on this part of the case, turn over the pages of the papers before the court, and they would soon be satisfied that he had rather understated the facts than used the slightest degree of exaggeration. He would read to the court but one case out of many which had come before the courts of adawlut, and it would shew how little influence the regulations of the shaster possessed against the superstitious prejudices or interested views of the natives; he would rest the whole question on that case being fairly reported. It was to be found in page 67 of the second volume of the papers printed by order of the House of Commons, and he would state it in the words of Mr. Hudleston their late Director.

"One Seethoo, a Brahmin, died when absent from his family. A fortnight afterwards his widow, Hoomuleea, a girl of about fourteen years of age, proceeded to burn herself, the pile being prepared by her nearest relations, then at the village she resided in. Her father, Puttan Tewarrey, was in another part of the country, and does not appear to have been made acquainted with what was passing. Whether the sacrifice was originally a voluntary one has not been ascertained; it must be presumed it was so.

"The preparatory rites completed, Hoomuleea ascended the pile, which was fired by her uncle, the prisoner Sheolol. The agony was soon beyond endurance, and she leaped from the flame; but seized by Sheolol Bichhook, and others, she was taken up by the hands and feet, and again thrown upon it; much burnt, and her clothes quite consumed, she again sprang from the pile, and running to a well hard by, laid herself down in the water-course, weeping bitterly. Sheolol now took a sheet, offered for the occasion by Roosa, and spreading it on the ground, desired her to seat herself upon it. 'No,' she said, 'she would not do this, he would again carry her to the fire, and she could not submit to this: she would quit the family and live by beggary; any thing, if they would but have mercy upon her.'—Sheolol upon this, swore by the Ganges that if she would seat herself on the cloth he would carry her to her home. She did so;—they bound her up in it, sent for a bamboo, which was passed through the loops formed by tying it together, and carrying it thus to the pile, now fiercely burning, threw it bodily into the flames. The cloth was immediately consumed, and the wretched victim once more made an effort to save herself, when at the instigation of the rest, the muselman Buraichee, approached near enough to reach her with his sword, and cutting her through the head, she fell back, and was released from further trial by death." (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. Jackson continued. The court would observe, that in this case the most solemn pledge which could have been made by one Hindoo to another was given by the uncle of the unhappy child, as a guarantee of her safety, and that it was afterwards violated in the most brutal manner. What pandit, he would be glad to know, would release that man's soul, after

after this violation of so sacred an oath? Any member of that court who doubted of such cases as he had read being in abundance, was bound before God and his country, to inquire diligently before he gave his vote, and to take the most effectual means in his power for abolishing the truth. If he neglected that course, he would leave that assembly a guilty man. In fact, an honest man had no alternative but to make himself master of the facts as set forth, or give credence to the statements of his hon. friend, to whose speech they were so much indebted. Was there any one who listened to him, who for an instant doubted the truth of what the papers before the court contained? Did any man then present hesitate to believe that those dreadful murders were committed, and sometimes with all the pomp and circumstance of a grand pageant, decorated by the presence of Gentoo and British authority? They had it in evidence before them, on the testimony of men who had filled high and responsible situations in their service—of men who had been distinguished in the direction of their affairs, that these appalling sacrifices of the young and the helpless were often attended by an immense concourse of persons, as if it were some great fair—by Brahmins of the highest caste—by our own police, and the most dignified of the local native authorities. The dreadful act was urged on by some, sanctioned or permitted by others, and witnessed by all. It might perhaps be asked, what interest had the Brahmins in encouraging the commission of those dreadful murders? The papers before the court would answer the question, by shewing that on these occasions the attendant Brahmins received a large fee; were they to receive none there would soon be an end to the practice; they being absent, it would cease to be a show! In most instances the suttee was rich and possessed of jewels, which she distributed with a liberal hand to those who assured her she was going to heaven, and applauded her act of self-destruction. Those who shared in the plunder had thus a direct interest in promoting the deed by which only it could be secured. The relations of the woman, particularly those on her husband's side, were also interested in seducing her to the fatal suicide. By the Hindoo law a widow of caste could not marry again, but must remain ever after under the care of her friends; by her death they were relieved from all farther trouble on her account. It was to these causes that Mr. Walter Ewing, and other of their most intelligent servants, had attributed the sacrifice of widows, even of four and of eight years old.

The *Chairman*.—"I can assure the learned proprietor he is mistaken in giving

those as the ages of the suttees. There is a mistake in the accounts, that which he reads as four should have been fourteen, and that which he reads as eight should have been eighteen." (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. *Jackson*. He had quoted those cases from Mr. Hudlestone's papers, which made mention of infant widows of the tender ages of eight and nine years; and the instance of four years of age, Mr. H. had quoted from the papers printed in Session 1823, page 45, where the age of four was inserted.

Mr. *Wigram*.—"I can state to the learned proprietor, that those ages have been inserted by mistake. That which is put down as only eight, should have been eighty."

Mr. *Jackson* continued. He had relied on the accuracy of the reports laid before the House of Commons, and now before the court. In those he found the numbers he had stated. There were besides several cases of nine, of twelve, and of thirteen, with the names and castes of the parties, and one but of two years of age! Were these also mistakes? But suppose fourteen years should have been stated instead of four, where stood the father in that court who would admit that as a proper age at which his daughter should decide upon sacrificing herself by a most cruel death? (*Hear, hear!*) Where was the father that would not heap curses on the head of the unfeeling relative who, disregarding the tears and intreaties of a girl of fourteen, imploring that her life might be spared, could take her by force and hurl her back into the flames from which she had repeatedly endeavoured to escape, as was the fact in the case he had read to the court? (*Hear, hear, hear!*) Was there one who heard him, who did not shudder at the villany with which the young creature's confidence in that case was betrayed, and the barbarity which accompanied the whole of the proceedings? She had, perhaps, given a sort of consent to the sacrifice, though this was said to be doubtful, which she was not allowed to retract, notwithstanding that retraction was perfectly lawful, and even provided for according to the Hindoo religion. What was the cause? The parties which forced her to the pile had an interest in her destruction! He had said that the Brahmins encouraged those practices for the sake of the fee they received. The parents and relatives of children did it in order to be relieved from farther care of them; if left on their hands at that early age they might have to maintain them through a long series of years, while subject to those contingencies and aberrations of conduct which bring discredit on their families. That these deeply disgraceful crimes might be avoided, and this

this foul blot removed from the British character, Mr. Jackson thought would be made apparent by the next part of the subject to which he should call the attention of the court. One material argument for the facility with which the practice might be abolished, was, Mr. Jackson said, its very limited extent. From the returns it appeared that the average number of women who burned themselves or were burnt on the death of their husbands, was about 600 in the year, and this number, let it be observed, was out of a population exceeding sixty millions, and in which the number of deaths of adult males left about 250,000 widows annually. This clearly shewed that the practice was by no means general, but rather an exception to the general rule: and yet it had been gravely stated that the practice was so general, that the attempt to put it down would excite a rebellion! What, preventing 600 immolations out of 250,000 widows excite rebellion! It would have no such effect, and for this he could quote the opinion of Mr. Harington, now a member of council in Bengal, who stated the practice as so partial, that no risk would attend the attempt to abolish it altogether. The directors had neglected it for forty years, and it had of course increased. What was it: they were now afraid of? Was it that the armed force of India would rebel if any attempt were made to put an end to the practice? Let the court recollect the real cause of the late calamity at Barrackpore, and then say whether they would fear any revolt of their troops on account of the abolition of suttee? Why no sepoy's widow ever thus sacrificed herself; not a single instance appeared out of the thousands of women that had been burnt since 1815. The sepoys were most devotedly attached to their wives and children; they would willingly lay down their lives for their protection. It was not a soldier's feeling to consign his widow to the flames, nor that of his comrades to countenance such cruelty; it was therefore a most gross absurdity, to believe that they would ever attempt revolt on account of a regulation, which was intended only for the protection and security of those so dear to them! To talk of rebellion from putting this wicked practice down, was to suppose that it extended all over India, and was deeply rooted in the prejudices of the natives, whereas the very reverse had been shown to be the fact; it was confined to a comparatively small portion of the Company's possessions, and was so little fixed in the prejudices of the natives, that in many cases enumerated in the papers, the slightest exertion was found sufficient to prevent it. How, then, were they to proceed? Were they to use force

at once? He did not advise that course. He would have it recommended to the Court of Directors, that such means should be adopted for abolishing the practice as might be deemed expedient, consulting, as far as consistent with that end the feelings of the natives. This he thought would be obtained by the original motion. But the Chairman's amendment, after urging the directors to act, added, that they should leave the matter wholly to their discretion. Now as he thought it better that their disposition to act should be stimulated by the recommendation of a General Court of Proprietors, he should vote for the original question. However, he was glad to see such an amendment coming from the chair; it was a hundred million of degrees beyond their last letter of 1823. The present amendment left the subject to the discretion of the local government, but the former said that "the less they interfered the better." What was that, but saying in plain English, that though women should be sacrificed and their children left destitute; though infants of the tender ages of seven, eight, nine, ten, and twelve years of age, should be cast into the flames, as widows deliberately and voluntarily devoting themselves on the funeral piles of their deceased husbands; though, in short, all the existing rules and orders of the Company on the subject of these suttees should be violated; though in the teeth of their own shaster, venal Brahmins and sordid relatives should seduce pregnant women, or those in a state of giving nurture to destroy themselves, the Company's officers were "not to interfere," or in any way interrupt the savage ceremony? Why this would be to cry havoc, and to let all the evils of the most barbarous superstition spread over that unhappy country. If this motion should not be carried he would feel it his duty again to call the attention of the court to the papers before them. The question could not stop there—nay, it should not stop there, he, himself, at a future court, would move a series of truisms, taken from the reports. Hon. members within the bar might, if they pleased, meet them with the previous question, but he would place them upon their records; the people of England and the Legislature should know of the hundreds of murders annually committed under British authority, and the public should be invoked for their suppression. He had not the least doubt but the call would be answered, and the tables of the houses be covered with petitions against a custom so obnoxious to every moral and religious precept, and so disgraceful to the national character. Might he be allowed to speak as a friend to the Directors, he would counsel them to avoid this extremity. He would

would recommend to their reflection a most material circumstance; the time would soon come round (it was fast approaching, and near at hand) for discussing the renewal of the Company's charter. That Parliament would take some strong and important steps in their affairs he had no doubt. In the mean time, let the members of that court carry with them the public approbation and regard, added to the consciousness that they had done their duty as men and Christians. In supporting the original motion, they would have credit with their country, for doing that spontaneously, which outraged humanity would otherwise soon force upon their adoption. The measure was admitted on all hands to be necessary; then let it be no longer deferred. The hon. Directors might reject the motion if they pleased, but they might rest assured that they would not thereby stop the proceedings of Parliament, or silence the voice of the British nation. Indeed, it would be disgraceful to them as men, if they waited for such interference. (*Hear, hear!*) It was due to both Houses of Parliament, before which the question would soon be brought, and still more to themselves, that that court should take some preliminary step to show that they entered into no compromise with an unrighteous policy, and were determined to avert from themselves and their children the guilt of shedding blood! The learned gentleman, after again adverting to the importance of carrying the original motion in preference to the amendment, concluded (amidst considerable cheering) by calling on the court, as each individual member of it would wish to retire with the conscience of an innocent man, to vote for putting an end to this abominable practice.

Captain *Maxfield* said he would not trespass long on the attention of the court. He certainly would not have to try their patience in a speech of seven hours. But he begged to say a few words in answer to the uncalled-for attack which had been made on hon. members within the bar and without, who happened to differ in opinion from the learned mover. Those who did not concur with him, and with the learned gentleman who spoke last, in thinking that the practice of suttee ought to be abolished by some means, forcible or otherwise, were, forsooth, declared to be guilty of murder. Now, he thought the practice ought not to be interfered with, and he was not more a murderer than either of the learned gentlemen who addressed the court. What, he asked, was all this declamation about? Why had not those learned gentlemen pointed out some effectual means by which the practice might be abolished? If the thing were as prac-

ticable as they represented, why not show how it might be accomplished? In a speech of seven hours' length, one would have thought there was ample time for shewing this if it could be shewn. Instead of this, however, they were entertained with a long detail of circumstances, that which they all admitted, and all deplored, that the practice existed. In the whole of that long address, he had scarcely heard one argument which required an answer. They all knew that the practice existed, and there was not one who would wish to perpetuate it. All agreed that it would be desirable to have an end put to it, but the question was as to the mode by which that object could be effected. If any one then in court could put it down by his wishes, no doubt the thing would soon be decided; but it was one thing to wish, and another to achieve this desirable result. Hon. proprietors might talk of the facilities of putting it down by force in one place, and by persuasion in another: these notions, however, were purely theoretical. All the experience we had on the subject, shewed that the attempt to reduce them to practice would be not only difficult, but dangerous. One remark of the learned gentleman (Mr. R. Jackson) deserved notice. The learned gentleman had said that the custom of suttee was not general, and had not taken any great hold on the minds of the natives. To this assertion he (Capt. Maxfield) must object. On a people so weak, so ignorant, as the Hindoos, the promise held out by the Shaster must have a powerful influence. The certainty of a wife enjoying the society of her husband in heaven for three millions and a half of years if she burned herself with his body, was calculated to have a strong effect on persons who were so ardent and enthusiastic in their religious feelings as the natives of India, and particularly the females. Three millions and a half years of happiness in heaven were ensured to the suttee, and neither the Shaster nor Menu pointed out any other means by which that might be obtained. Was it at all surprising, then, that this should have a strong effect on ignorant minds? He verily believed, that if the same doctrine could be inculcated in England, and that it obtained, there would be found very many of both sexes ready to make the sacrifice in order to ensure its reward. (*Hear, hear!*) Why then should it excite our surprise, that the promise had so much influence in India? It was quite idle to say it had not a strong hold on the people's minds. It had, and like many other superstitions, the more absurd it was, the more firmly did the natives adhere to it. Allusion had been made to Col. Walker's influence in putting a stop to the practice of infanticide in his district.

What

What was said on that subject was quite correct, but the conclusion meant to be drawn from it was erroneous. Col. Walker could effect that which not ten men in the whole of the Company's service could do. All who had been in Guzerat, could tell how much and how deservedly he was beloved by the people there. To this the hon. director (Major Carnac) had borne testimony, and no doubt would have dwelt longer on the subject if he himself had not been a party concerned. But it was hopeless to think that the rest of our public servants in India could act as Colonel Walker had done. If they were all like him, it would be an easy matter to abolish suttee, and to put an end to infanticide throughout India. All men were not alike in their modes of proceeding; the Company must use the tools as they found them, though they might not be tempered alike. Under all the circumstances of the case, he would support the amendment; and he could not but express his regret that the feelings of the court had been worked upon in the way they had been on this occasion. It was too bad to hear hon. proprietors accused of being murderers, and *participes criminis* in those horrid sacrifices, which they had no means of preventing. — (Cries of "question," "question!") He had not much more to offer, but he must be allowed to conclude his remarks without interruption: the court had already indulged an hon. gentleman with a hearing of seven hours, and he had not yet spoken more than as many minutes. He had before said, that he concurred in the amendment; he would not sanction the use of force in the abolition of this practice, but he thought that much might be done by a more strict attention to the regulations already in existence in India. Those regulations had been very much relaxed in consequence of being entrusted to persons whose connivance at their violation might be purchased by a few rupees. He himself had seen cases where a few rupees were sufficient to purchase the consent of a local native officer, to what he knew was a direct breach of the Company's regulations with respect to suttees. But it might be asked, was there no remedy?—were there no means by which a stop could be put to this practice? He thought there was, and that it might be gradually abolished without any violent interference with the religious prejudices of the people. He would suggest that a woman applying to burn herself with the body of her husband should be obliged to wait three months, and that in all cases the application for such license should be made in person: this, he had no doubt, would, in a vast majority of cases, be an effectual prevention, as it would afford time for reflection. He would also have some means adopted for

disseminating the doctrines of the shaster with respect to the use of force. By the shaster all force was strictly forbidden in the performance of suttee; but from the motives of interested parties, this doctrine was not fully explained to the people; if it were made sufficiently known he was sure that women would never consent: for in almost every case of suttee, they had seen that absolute force was required to keep the suttee within the burning pile from the first moment the flames reached her body. Feeling convinced that all these means would be resorted to, in the exercise of the discretion vested in the Court of Directors by the amendment, he would vote for that in preference to the original motion.

Mr. *Trant* said he would explain in a few words the reasons why he voted for the amendment put from the chair. He saw that the instructions sent out to India had the signature of Mr. C. Grant, on whom so deserved an eulogium had been pronounced, and in those instructions a discretion had been given to the Indian government to act as it pleased, and as circumstances might require. Another reason why he preferred the amendment was this, that great difficulties would present themselves in the way of any active measures that might be adopted to abolish this custom. On this subject they had the evidence of Mr. Harington, who stated that though he felt anxious, in common with many others, to put an end to the practice, yet there were difficulties in the way which could not immediately be got over. The only means by which these difficulties might be effectually removed, would be by a gradual improvement amongst the people, by the dissemination of moral instruction. On this subject he was glad to find that much had lately been done. Forty schools, he perceived, had been open for the instruction of Hindoo youth; and one of those schools for the instruction of females was superintended by a Hindoo mistress. Feeling that much might eventually be done by these means, he was not prepared to risk any thing by the adoption of precipitate measures. Such measures, he was sure, could do no good, and might be productive of much injury; he was therefore opposed to all such measures, and though the want of them might suffer the practice to continue for some time longer, he did not at all consider himself criminal, and would go to bed with as quiet a conscience upon the subject, as the hon. and learned gentleman who had a short time before addressed the court. He thought the best way would be to leave it to the discretion of their executive, and, considering what was now going on in India, he would be ashamed if he withheld his confidence from them on this point. In a recent number of the

Quarterly

Quarterly Review, it was stated, on the authority of Col. Phipps, that much of the cruelty practiced in the worship of Juggernaut had been recently abandoned. The abominable and disgusting sacrifices heretofore attending that worship were to a great extent given up, and in other respects a gradual improvement was perceptible in the habits of the people, as connected with the severity of their worship. The court would exercise its power to much better effect in giving encouragement to this gradual improvement; but as that was going on, it would be extremely dangerous to pursue any course which might come into violent collision with the religious prejudices of the natives. (*Hear, hear!*)

Gen. Sir J. Doyle said that after the many lengthened addresses which they had heard on this question, he was sure the court would listen to him with some pleasure, for all he had to state was, that he had intended to address them, but on consideration he thought they had already heard quite enough, and therefore he would not add a word one way or the other. (*Hear, hear!*)

The Chairman observed that nothing could have induced him to meet the original motion with an amendment but the language used in the support of that motion. That language led him to believe that something more was intended than the motion itself expressed. This he thought was clear from the language of the hon. mover himself, and also from the speech of the hon. proprietor (Mr. R. Jackson).

Dr. Gilchrist said he was disposed to pursue a middle course in this affair: but between the two conflicting opinions he felt himself like a fish out of water; he was placed between two fires—(*hear, hear! and laughter*), like a Jew amongst saints, or a saint amongst sinners.—(*Hear, hear!*) Some complaints had been made against the learned gentleman (Mr. Poynder) for the length of time during which he had occupied the attention of the court; but he (Dr. Gilchrist) made no objection to the learned proprietor on that ground; on the contrary, he thought him entitled to a hearing to the full extent of his address. He himself had often occasion to address the court, and to trespass a little on their patience, and should be very unwilling to be interrupted; he was, therefore, disposed to give to others the same measure of indulgence which he claimed himself. With reference to the question before the court he would observe, that as an abstract proposition, no man would contend that suicide ought to be allowed. But it was another question whether the practice should be put down by force of arms. He thought there was a way by which

this might be effected without risk or danger to the Company's interests. That way he, as an author, had pointed out to their Governor general in India forty years ago. His plan was, that any Hindoo in any way connected with a suttee—not merely as instrumental to the burning, but any relation or connexion of a woman who had burned herself, should be declared for ever incapable of holding any place of office, authority, or emolument in the Company's service. He had lately proposed the same thing to a gentleman who was about to introduce the subject to the House of Commons, and something of that kind must be done in addition to other measures. Something, he thought, ought to be done on this subject—the laws of humanity required it, and the only question was, what that something should be. One reason why he would support the original motion was, that he saw all the directors unanimous the other way. (*Hear, hear! and a laugh.*) He did not wish, by the original motion, to interfere with the religion of the people of India, or to attempt to christianize them—for that attempt, in the present state of things, would be hopeless. Let the effects of religion and education work their way; they would in time have, no doubt, a powerful effect; but, in the mean time, such measures as that he had proposed should be adopted. He entirely concurred in what had been said by the learned proprietor, that no member of that court could lay his head quietly upon his pillow, unless he aided in some way in putting an end to this barbarous custom. The thing might be very easily accomplished by the mere difference of a letter, and he would tell them the reason. The difference was between "suttee and suttau." The one meant the burning of a woman for her husband, and the other meant the burning of a priest; and if the priests alone were concerned, there would be no difficulty in getting rid of the matter. But the suttee presented the difficulty. Hon. proprietors were not aware that relationship with a suttee gave a certain rank in India in the estimation of the natives. The son of a woman who had performed suttee ranked as a knight; if he could boast that his sister also had burned herself, he would be considered as a baronet; if he had other relations who had also sacrificed themselves, he would rank as a baron, and so on up even to the dignity of a king, according to the number of females of his family who had performed suttee. This it was which gave the custom so fast a hold upon the prejudices of the natives.—(*Cries of "question, question!"*) They might cry question if they pleased, but he was not the man to be put down—he would go on to the end of

the chapter, and would take care that the right of every proprietor to address that court should not be sacrificed in his person. He would not, however, trespass much longer on their patience, but he implored them, as they valued their reputation in this life, and their happiness in the next, to be cautious how they negatived the motion. It would be a stain upon their character, as sovereigns, as legislators, and as men, if they did not take some steps to check a practice repugnant to the laws of nature and of civil society. At the same time he must repeat, that he did not wish to see violence used. Let the Company strictly enforce the regulations already existing; let them keep a vigilant watch over the native officers whom they employed: this would be going a great way. While he was in India he had never gone to see a woman roasted, but he knew that many such sacrifices had been performed in the immediate vicinity of Calcutta; and several of these in violation of the orders of Government, and even of the rules of the shaster. How could this happen, unless the rich Hindoos bribed the native officers to connive at such proceedings? What reliance, he asked, could be placed on the Brahmins to put a stop to this—they who gloried in the number of relations that had performed suttee? The age of the suttee, and the information as to the legality in each particular case, were derived from them; and what truth could be expected from parties so interested? The Company might expect it if they pleased, but they would not get it. The priests were the general authors and abettors of these wicked ceremonies; they had an immediate interest in the thing, and it was idle to talk of any distant reward or patronage they might expect for not encouraging the practice. They acted upon the old proverb of “a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush;” and they preferred the certainty of immediate gain to the distant prospect of greater advantage. An hon. proprietor had talked of the danger to the Company’s interests from the immediate abolition of the practice. He did not mean to contend for the use of direct force; but even if that were resorted to, he did not believe it would have the dangerous consequences which some gentlemen anticipated. The spirit of the Hindoos was by no means so vindictive as some gentlemen imagined. As an illustration of this he would mention, that he was travelling in India on one occasion, and the moonshes who attended him were very much annoyed by a Braminee bull. These bulls were let to have free scope wherever they went, and their trespasses were often found of great inconvenience, because whatever they did was

without redress, as they were held sacred. His moonshes, however, were not of that opinion, and they caught one of these Braminee bulls and cut his throat, and afterwards eat him. He (Dr. Gilchrist) was afraid that the throats of him and his companions would have been cut in return, and that the story would have spread all over Benares, and that at length it would have been made a matter of grave complaint to the governor. No such thing, however, took place, and the loss of the Braminee bull was borne without any thing being said, except an expression of regret at his death. This shewed clearly that there was no very strong national feeling, even on matters which were held sacred by their very religion. He intreated the court, then, not to be led away by fears of danger to the Company’s interests, which had no foundation, and (he added) not to be led away by the apprehensions of gentlemen who conjured up ghosts which were not in existence. It was idle to talk of the native troops being opposed to the abolition of the suttee; that army was, for a great part, composed of Mussulmans, who cared nothing at all about the practice, and on whom its abolition could have no influence.

A Proprietor expressed a hope, that whatever might be the determination of the court on this question, it would be unanimous. There was the more reason to hope for this, as the difference between the amendment and the original motion was only a difference in name. It was for the general interest of the proprietors, and would facilitate that which was, he believed, their common object, that there should not appear to be any difference of opinion amongst them on this subject. The learned gentleman who brought forward the original motion had, he was sure, no intention to cast aspersions on the executive of the Company, in any thing that had fallen from him on this occasion; and as the opposition of the hon. Chairman was more directed to the words of the speech than the motion, he hoped the discussion might be brought to a conclusion in which all would concur. The Court of Directors, he felt persuaded, would feel themselves bound to make every exertion which prudence could point out, to comply with the wishes of the proprietors. That they could effect much, without resorting to force, he was quite certain; and that they were disposed to do a great deal he was willing to believe. Under those circumstances, he was willing to leave the matter wholly to their discretion.

Sir J. Doyle said it was not his intention to address the court, but after what had fallen from the hon. Chairman, he could not avoid saying a few words. From what had been stated, it appeared that the

hon.

hon. chairman agreed with the original motion, and differed only from the speech by which it was introduced. There was not much, then, which stood in the way of their being unanimous; and he need hardly say how important it was that the court should appear united on this question. His own opinion was, that the whole matter should be left to the discretion of the Court of Directors, convinced that they would adopt the best means for bringing about that result which, he trusted, was the common object of all—the eventual abolition of this barbarous practice. But at the same time he would suggest, that the hon. Chairman should leave the original motion as it stood, as it was clear that the passages in the speech to which he objected were not uttered with any intention to offend. The withdrawal of the amendment would reconcile all parties, and bring about that which was so desirable on this occasion—an unanimous vote of the court. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. Wigram said he had no wish to impute improper motives to any hon. proprietor; on the contrary, he was disposed to give credit to every party for good intentions. At the same time he could not but express his regret that such a discussion should have taken place, as it would tend rather to frustrate than facilitate the object which they all had in view. He could by no means concur in the arguments by which the hon. proprietor had supported his motion; for in his opinion, they went to the putting down the practice by force. (*Cries of "No, no!"*) Honourable gentlemen might entertain their own opinions on that point; but it was his conviction, that whatever might be the words of the motion, the effect of the speech was clearly the use of force; and as long as he had a seat within that bar, he would not consent to any measure which would risk the safety of the Company's power in India. It had been said by an hon. proprietor that he would vote for the amendment because he did not understand it; now he would support it for a contrary reason. In the original motion the word prevention was used; now by that word he could understand nothing else than the intended application of force, and in that sense it was calculated to do infinite harm to the government at home and abroad. An assent to any motion, however it might be worded, supported with such a speech as that of the hon. and learned proprietor, would be construed into an approval of the principles which that speech contained; and, with every respect for the Court of Proprietors, he could not agree with the hon. and learned proprietor in thinking it their peculiar duty to instruct their executive as to what measures they

should adopt on this occasion. The legislature had placed the executive power in the hands of the Court of Directors and the Board. The proprietors had the right, undoubtedly, of choosing their own directors: but he thought they had not the power to dictate what particular measures should be carried into execution. He would now say a word as to the amendment. [Here the hon. director read the amendment] Now, he contended that this amendment went as far as could be done with safety, by leaving much to our governments abroad; and as the original motion contained the word "prevention," on that ground he would object to it; and if he stood alone, he would vote against it.

Mr. Twining said, that whether they adopted the original motion or the amendment, much good would result from the present discussion. He thought many thanks were due to the honourable gentleman for having given them so much information on this subject, and without going to weigh words, he was sure it would produce a very good effect. Much, however, as he approved the general principle of the learned mover, he would give his support to the amendment. He did not object to the original motion by itself, but when he recollected that the Court of Directors were unanimous in their support of the amendment, and that they were disposed to give effect to the wishes of the proprietors upon this subject, he was anxious to leave it altogether to their discretion, possessing as they did the best means of information with respect to it. He repeated, that he by no means objected to the principle contained in the original motion, but if both were put he must support the amendment.

Mr. J. Martin observed, that before the question was brought forward in that court, it had been the object of active measures by various religious denominations in the country, amongst whom it excited a very considerable interest. It would at last, he believed, become very popular in this country if the original motion were now rejected; it would, he thought, excite very general dissatisfaction out of that court. If however on the contrary it was carried, the decision would be hailed with satisfaction by the public, as an indication that something was likely to be done in the case. Without being a prophet or the son of a prophet, he might say, that unless that court took active measures for the suppression of that barbarous custom, the public would act for themselves in the affair, and take it up warmly in another place, without consulting the objects which the Company may have in view. In conclusion, he would appeal to their good feelings, and beg of them not to re-

ject the original motion on account of the use of the word 'prevention,' which he believed came in the first instance from their side. He trusted the hon. Chairman would not persist in his opposition to the motion, in the general principle of which it was clear he fully concurred.

The *Chairman* said that on no occasion was he disposed pertinaciously to adhere to his own view of any question, and therefore if the hon. mover and the learned gentleman (Mr. Jackson) would declare to him that it was not their intention to instruct the directors, or to apply to the legislature in any way sanctioning the use of force, he would withdraw his amendment, but he could not do so unless he should have first received that assurance.

After a few words from Mr. Weeding,

Mr. *Poynder* said his motion went to leave it entirely to the directors, to use their own time and their own discretion. This motion he thought the directors could not refuse, and therefore he would not retract.

The *Chairman* said that was not what he wanted; what he wished was, that the gentlemen would afford him the satisfaction of knowing that they did not wish that this practice should be put down by legislative enactment, and he would withdraw his amendment, and he must add, that except for the disclosures arising out of the speeches introducing and seconding the motion, he would have felt it his duty to support it without proposing any amendment at all.

Mr. *Poynder* said that if any thing in his motion spoke of the use of force, he would admit that the hon. Chairman was correct in rejecting it. He did not speak of immediate force; if he alluded to it at all, it was as remote and contingent upon the failure of all other means; the use of force at present, then, he disavowed, but it was too much to ask him to state whether he had any intention of urging that point in future.

Mr. *Jackson* said that the Chairman must have noticed that he had refrained from going into the horrid practice of *infanticide*, which had been put down in the western part of their dominions by the firmness of Lord Wellesley, who proclaimed that he would treat it as murder; and in the eastern parts by the government of Bombay: because that in both of these cases the purpose had been aided, if not effected, by military demonstrations. In this case he did not think force would be necessary; he meant, in the terms of the original motion, that the practice should be prevented, but he relied upon the opinions of near sixty of their most eminent servants, such as residents, judges, and magistrates, that it might easily be subdued by a mixture of firm and conciliatory measures, who founded their opinions

upon at least as many instances in which such conduct had been successful. Should it now fail, he would not hesitate at coercion—they must obey God rather than man!

The *Chairman* observed that as the hon. proprietors declined making the admission he required, he felt it his duty to press his amendment.

Mr. *Poynder* stated that he had not advocated the use of force further than as the Court of Directors might see the necessity of using it. He must again beg to disavow the imputations which had been cast upon his motives on this occasion.

The *Chairman* said he had made a proposition of a conciliating kind, but it had not been met in that manner which he thought the court had a right to expect; he had nothing therefore more to do now, but to take the sense of the court upon the motion and amendment.

The motion and amendment were again read, and the question put from the chair, when

Sir *C. Forbes* rose. He said he had waited until the last moment, in the expectation that some other member of the court would accept the challenge given by the hon. director, and answer his remarks respecting the power of the Court of Proprietors. Now he would say that the Court of Proprietors should be considered only as the servants of the directors if they tamely submitted to the statement he had made. The Court of Proprietors had, he contended, a right to call the attention of the directors, their executive body, to any particular course of measures which they thought ought to be pursued, and to give instructions respecting them. He asked, if the court were to recommend or give instructions upon any particular point, whether the Court of directors would dare to refuse? Perhaps they might—but what power had the proprietors in such case? They had the power to visit any director who refused to listen to their recommendation, with a vote of censure, and that vote would have the effect of his immediate removal from the direction. Why, it might as well be said that the House of Commons had not the right to dictate a particular course of measures to a minister; that they had such power was undeniable, and he should like to see the minister who would dare refuse to give immediate attention to such suggestion. What! were the members of that court to be only the mere puppets of the directors, to act and move at their pleasure, without a power of doing any thing but what they should please to dictate? Was all they had to do there, to place confidence in the Court of Directors, and leave every thing to their discretion? He was really sick

sick of this. He was as much disposed as any member of that court to place proper confidence in the directors; but he could not allow any one of them to put such a construction upon the law affecting the rights of the proprietors, as that which he had heard from the hon. director.

Mr. *Pattison* declared that he had not understood his hon. colleague in the sense to which the hon. bart. alluded. The hon. director was proceeding, when he was called to order by

General *Thornton*, who observed, that it was not regular to speak after the question was put.

The *Chairman* said the question had not been put, and he apprehended that even if it had, it was competent at any time before the sense of the court was taken, for any member of the court, who had not previously spoken, to address himself to the question. The hon. bart. had been allowed so to do, and he thought it but fair that his hon. colleague should exercise the same right.

Mr. *Pattison* proceeded. He had but few words to offer, but he would not be put down in his attempt to exercise his right. This question had been taken up as if it had been a declaration on the part of the directors against the principle of the motion. It was no such thing. The proposition made by the hon. Chairman was one solely of conciliation, and was rendered necessary by principles having been laid down in the speech which were not contained in the resolution of the hon. proprietor.

Mr. *Poynder* said the recommendation of force was not either in the speech or the resolution.

Mr. *Pattison* continued. When he was a young man, he used sometimes to interrupt others in their speeches; but now he was an old man, more used to and acquainted with the world, and he found that very little was gained in point of time or convenience by such interruptions, while they added very much to the irregularity of a debate. But to come to the subject before the court. The hon. Chairman had made a proposition which he thought could not in fairness be rejected. All he asked was, that the two proprietors should state that they did not intend to recommend the application of force. If they did so intend, that was a strong reason why the court should not agree to the motion; and if they did not intend it, they could have no hesitation in avowing it. The amendment would, in the latter case, be withdrawn, the original motion agreed to, and all parties would go away satisfied.

Mr. *Wigram* begged to explain. He was sure the hon. bart. had quite misunderstood the meaning of his observa-

tions; and in doing so, he (Sir C. Forbes) had himself fallen into an error. He (Mr. *Wigram*) understood the hon. and learned proprietors to have stated that that court had a right to instruct and command the Court of Directors. Now he (Mr. *Wigram*) had stated that the Legislature had placed the government of India in the hands of the Directors and the Board of Control, and to that statement he adhered. The Court of Proprietors had, he fully admitted, the power of making any recommendations they might please to the Court of Directors, who would pay every consideration to the same; but they were not necessarily bound to adopt it.

The question was now again about to be put from the chair, when

Mr. *Poynder* said, that before the court came to a decision he claimed his right to reply, and felt it necessary to call for lights.

A Proprietor.—"Good God! is it after a seven hours' speech?"

Dr. *Gilchrist* said it would be then too late to hear the hon. member's reply. No doubt he had a right to reply, and the court had a right to indulge him as long as he thought proper to address them; but, judging from his opening speech, the reply would occupy a considerable time; he therefore moved that the court do adjourn to this day week.

Mr. *Jackson* begged to read the motion to the court. He then read it as follows:

"That this Court, taking into consideration the continuance of human sacrifices in India, is of opinion that, in the case of all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life, it is the duty of a paternal government to interpose for their prevention; and therefore recommends to the hon. Court of Directors to transmit such instructions to India as that Court may deem most expedient for accomplishing this object, consistent with all practicable attention to the feelings of the natives."

Now, he contended, it was clear from those words that the use of force was not intended by this motion. It left it to the Court of Directors to issue such instructions as to them should seem proper, but not one word was said of force.

The *Chairman*.—Then he was to understand the learned gentleman as not in any way recommending the adoption of force?

Mr. *Jackson*.—He certainly did not mean to recommend the use of force now; but if other measures should fail, he must not be understood as being precluded from recommending the use of force on a future occasion.

The question was here again about to be put, when

Mr. *Poynder* insisted upon his right of reply.

reply. It was absolutely necessary to his view of the case that he should have an opportunity of answering some of the objections made to him.

Mr. Jackson said, if his hon. friend concurred with him in his construction of the motion, there was an end of the question: if not, it was most certain he had a right to reply.

General Thornton observed that the question had been already put, and he thought the subject had been sufficiently discussed.

The Chairman said, certainly the learned gentleman had a right to reply if he thought proper to exercise it.

After a few words from Sir J. Sewell, which were inaudible to us,

The Chairman said, that he would now withdraw his amendment if the hon. proprietor would say that he had no intention of recommending the use of force.

Mr. Poynder observed that he had already stated that.

Sir J. Sewell said he thought that the conduct of the hon. Chairman was hardly fair upon this occasion. He not only called upon the learned proprietor for an explanation of what he had stated, and of what his object was at this moment, but he seemed to require some pledge as to what it might be hereafter. There was no talk of force at the present moment, but there might be some necessity for its adoption hereafter, and if it were used, it was his opinion that it would not be resisted. He fully concurred in what had been observed by the learned gentleman (Mr. Jackson), that the Court of Directors would become participators in the crime of murder if they did not take some means for its prevention. They were the governors of India, and had the power, and he must observe, that they were a very bad specimen of governors. They endeavoured to throw the responsibility from themselves, by saying that the acts were the voluntary acts of others, and that they could not prevent them. It was in this way that Pilate wished to wash his hands from innocent blood, and to throw the guilt on others. The names of those who gloried in the action, and cried "let his blood be upon us and upon our children," were long since lost, while that of Pilate was handed down with disgrace to posterity.

The Chairman said, that his object in wishing to obtain the declaration he had mentioned from the hon. gentleman, was not to deter them from any future measures. If the present resolution should not, in their opinion, produce the effect which they anticipated, they would of course have a perfect right to bring the subject forward upon any future occasion, only giving due notice to that effect, and af-

fording time to the local governments to act upon the present motion.

Mr. Poynder said this was so fair and candid, that he must concur in what had been stated by his hon. friend (Mr. Jackson). He did not want the use of force; indeed he did not think it requisite at present; all he required was, that every other means in the power of the directors should be employed.

The Chairman said that, with the understanding that there was no wish to recommend the employment of force until the court had sent out instructions, he would withdraw his amendment. (*Cheers.*) At the same time he must observe, that if the measures to be adopted by that court should not have a satisfactory result, the question would be open for further consideration. (*Hear, hear!*) In answer to the remark, as to how far the recommendation of the Court of Proprietors was obligatory on the Court of Directors, he should observe, that, if they agreed to any recommendation for the employment of force, no consideration would induce him to be a party to the transmission of such instructions to India; it would be uncandid in him if he hesitated to declare so, or if he scrupled to say that, rather than comply with such an instruction, he should decide at once to resign his seat behind that bar. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. Campbell said, that on a subject of less moment, he would not, at so late an hour, have ventured to present himself to the court, but he did not think that he should discharge his duty were he to give a silent vote on a matter of such vital importance. He regretted extremely that the Chairman should have been induced to withdraw his amendment. It was one of the few instances in which he had occasion to question the judgment of the hon. baronet; but neither the respect he entertained for him, nor the unpopularity that might attend the course he (Mr. C.) was then pursuing, could make him compromise his opinion on this occasion. Mr. Campbell thought that he perceived, in the original motion, something that might lead to the employment of force for the prevention of these horrid sacrifices, which every person must deplore. He could not but deprecate any thing like penal enactments to put down the practice of suttee; he was sure that such a course, while likely to be productive of danger, would rather tend to aggravate than to abate the evil: for who ever heard of custom of long duration, or of prejudice deeply rooted, being overcome by persecution? He had resided in India for seven-and-twenty years, and in situations which afforded him opportunities of becoming intimately acquainted with the native character, and he felt confident that

that the only mode of effecting the object which all must desire, was by the diffusion of education, and by the moral improvement of the people, who, when more enlightened, would of themselves abandon a practice, not less abhorrent to our feelings, than repugnant to one of the strongest instincts of our nature. The hon. director was proceeding, when

Sir J. Sewell hoped that, at that late hour (past seven o'clock), the worthy director would not feel it necessary to go over arguments which the court had already heard at such very considerable length.

Mr. Campbell said that it was not his intention to have trespassed on the court further than to say, that as he could not agree to the original motion, he should hold up his hand against it.

The amendment was then withdrawn, and the original motion put, and carried by a large majority, there being no more than five hands held up in the negative.

The Chairman said there was some other business to be disposed of before the court separated.

General Thornton suggested that it was then too late to think of going into any other business, and thought it would be better to adjourn the court to that day week.

The Chairman said he had no objection to adjourn to any time that might suit the convenience of the court; but the question was, whether another day could be spared for another general court, unless a very early one—to-morrow or the day after—was named. Should that not be convenient, he hoped that they would put it off until some period after the general election.

Dr. Gilchrist said he had no objection to the postponement.

The Chairman repeated, that unless some very early day was named, he might find it difficult to get through the business of the court before the general election.

Dr. Gilchrist, referring to the question of the general election, said the court were aware that he was one of the candidates. Now he wished to know from the hon. Chairman, whether, in case one of the six other candidates should be taken into Abraham's bosom before the period fixed for the election, what was to become of him? Would the directors get another candidate, or was he to walk over the course?

The Chairman.—"I hope not."

Dr. Gilchrist.—"Then am I to understand that time enough would be allowed for another candidate, to start at a moment's notice?"

The Chairman.—"Yes, a candidate may start from the post."

It was now moved that the court do adjourn, *sine die*.

Mr. Twining said, the court were aware that he had a motion, but he was unwilling to press it at that late hour, and with so thin an attendance. He thought it better, perhaps, to give notice of it for the next court.

A Proprietor suggested that it would be much better to adjourn this court to the next Wednesday, when they might have time to get through the whole of the business before them.

The Chairman said it would be very inconvenient to have a general court next Wednesday, there was so much other business to be done; but, if gentlemen were so disposed, he was willing to give up to-morrow.

Mr. Twining said he would leave it entirely in the hands of the directors. He did not wish that any time should be fixed which would cause inconvenience, and therefore he should leave the matter over to another day.

After a short conversation, in which the Chairman, Mr. Jackson, and Mr. Twining took a part, it was agreed that the court should adjourn to Friday.

The court then adjourned to Friday the 30th instant.

East India House, Friday, March 30.

A quarterly general Court of Proprietors of East-India stock was this day held, pursuant to adjournment, at the Company's house in Leadenhall-street.

PROPOSED THANKS TO C. MARJORIBANKS, ESQ.

The minutes of the last court having been read,

The Chairman (Sir G. A. Robinson) said, he had to acquaint the court that it was met by adjournment from the 28th inst. for the purpose of discussing several questions. The first of these was a motion, of which notice had been given by a gallant general,

"That the thanks of this court be given to our late Chairman, C. Marjoribanks, Esq., for the obliging and gracious manner in which he communicated information when questions were put to him by the proprietors; and for the very satisfactory manner in which he conducted himself in the court whilst he filled the chair."

General Thornton wished, before he proceeded with his motion, to ask two questions of the hon. Chairman, the answers to which would, in some degree, guide him in his course of argument. When a ballot was demanded by a certain number of proprietors, it must be granted; and he should like to know whether, by that proceeding, the Company was put to any expense? He should also be glad to learn whether any, and what expense was incurred, when a number of proprietors requested that a court should be made special.

Mr.

Mr. Weeding objected to such questions, the effect of which was, to interrupt and retard the regular business of the court. The Chairman had already decided that questions should not be put till the regular business of the day was at an end, and he hoped he would adhere to that rule. Either let the gallant general proceed with his motion, or let the court pass to the other orders of the day. (*Hear!*)

The Chairman.—“I consider the question quite unconnected with the motion before the court; and this inquiry I have no more means of answering than the gallant general himself; for I have not looked into the expense attending either a general court or a ballot.”

General Thornton said he would at once proceed to state the reasons which induced him to make this motion. Gentlemen would, no doubt, express some surprise that such a delay should have taken place before he introduced this proposition. They would, of course, feel, that when such a motion was contemplated, it ought to be brought forward as soon as possible after the individual whose conduct was to be approved of had left the chair: he should, therefore, as briefly as he could, state the cause of the delay that had occurred. In the first place, perhaps, it might be attributable to him; but ultimately it was caused by the directors. He was unwilling to go round, and request nine gentlemen to favour him with their signatures: he well knew the excuse which was generally made on such occasions. Individuals said, “it is proper that attention should be paid to such and such matters, but we are afraid of offending the directors by signing a requisition.” (*Hear!*) Therefore it was that he did not make such an application. He, however, knew, that on some occasions, a quarterly general Court had been made special by the Court of Directors, on the requisition of two proprietors, for the purpose of taking certain specified matters into consideration: he, therefore, knowing that a gentleman near him approved of this motion, asked him, soon after Mr. Marjoribanks had left the chair, to sign, along with himself, a requisition, calling on the directors to make the next quarterly general court special; and he desired the clerk to go to the directors and inquire whether that requisition was sufficient. The answer he received was, that it was quite sufficient. The requisition was as follows:

“We, the undersigned proprietors of East-India stock, request that the quarterly general court to be held on the 21st of June next, be made special, for the purpose of considering the following proposition, viz. ‘That the thanks of the proprietors be given to our late chairman, C. Marjoribanks, Esq.’”

And then came the rest of the motion, as

it had been read this day. This was the requisition sent in early in May, and the answer was, that it was quite sufficient. A letter was, however, sent from the East-India House some time afterwards, containing a refusal to accede to the requisition, which he would read. It was dated “June 1, 1826,” was signed “J. Dart, Secretary,” and addressed to Mr. Addinell and himself. It ran thus:

“I have laid before the Court of Directors your letter of last month, on the subject of the next quarterly general court of Proprietors being made special to submit to it the motion therein stated, and I have to inform you, that the Court of Directors do not think it necessary to make the court special for that purpose. At the general court to be held on the 21st inst. it will be competent for you to bring forward your motion, if you think proper.”

He confessed that he was astonished at this refusal, as quarterly general courts had been made special at the request of two proprietors on other occasions; and he did not choose, without any notice, to bring forward such a motion as the present, which deserved the attention of the proprietors. He knew he might claim the privilege of bringing the motion forward at the quarterly general court without notice; but that he would not do, except under peculiar circumstances. He had lately, on several occasions, when he felt it necessary to ask a question, been desired to wait till the conclusion of the proceedings. Now the reason why he first wished to bring the present motion forward, was on account of the obliging manner in which the late chairman conducted himself while he presided in that court. He had seen, with great sorrow, the conduct of some former chairmen, who had acted in a very disobliging manner to the proprietors. The rule laid down as to the asking of questions might be a very proper one, if fairly acted on; but Mr. Marjoribanks did not stand on such a nicety; it was his custom to give every information in his power as soon as it was required of him. He understood, on the other hand, that one chairman, who was not of so obliging a disposition, had been the cause of an expense of £5,000 accruing to the Company for the printing of voluminous papers, as well as of the time of the court having been occupied five days, in consequence of that individual's refusing to answer a single question. Whether this was true or not he did not know; but it was very likely that mischief had arisen from his not having done his duty, by answering the question put to him. He had already remarked that a great length of time had elapsed, since he first formed the intention of bringing forward this motion; he, however, fortunately procured an opportunity some months ago to give notice of his intention of moving this vote of thanks. How he got such an opportunity he could not tell, for a similar favour was immediately

immediately afterwards refused to another hon. proprietor He (Gen. Thornton), however, luckily slipped in (*a laugh*), and gave notice of the present motion. He should now call the attention of the court to the grounds on which the motion was introduced. It arose from a feeling of gratitude for the civil and gentlemanly behaviour which, at all times, had distinguished Mr. Marjoribanks, whilst he filled the chair. Mr. Marjoribanks acted, throughout the time in which he held the situation of chairman, with perfect good-humour; which was not, he believed, the case with others who had filled the chair. Rules had been made by hon. Chairmen, as it appeared to him, by their own authority alone. One of these was, that no notice of motion should be given, and that no question should be asked, until the business of the day was over. This rule put the proprietors to very great inconvenience; and this he could prove in his own case, for on one day, when he wished to say a word, and was told he must wait till the proceedings were concluded, the court sat until seven o'clock, and it was not in his power to stay. What time was it, he would ask, to put a question of great importance, perhaps, to the interests of the Company, or to give a notice of motion, which a gentleman might wish to be generally known to the proprietors, when the day was drawing to a close, and the court was nearly empty? A proprietor might wait till the latest hour, till, in fact, the court had broken up suddenly, and then he would be told, as had been done on a former occasion, that the question of adjournment had been carried. He had been for some time in the House of Commons, and had been called on to move an adjournment when there was no business before the house; but he recollected no instance where that question was carried secretly, or where those whose duty it was, refused to answer a question until all the business was gone through. What did their by-laws say on this subject? Sec. iii, cap. 8, set forth:

"It is ordained, That all questions in any general court, except the previous question or for adjournment, shall, if required, be stated in writing, before the same shall be put; and the Chairman shall not adjourn or dissolve the court without a question."

Now what was the reason of this? It was clearly that, if any thing were forgotten in the course of the day, or remained to be done, it should be disposed of before an adjournment took place; otherwise there was no use in the by-law. If this principle were opposed, and the by-law rendered nugatory, it would be better to put an end to the chair at once. He, therefore, protested against this conduct of the chair, which virtually prevent-

ed individuals from receiving information. He thought it would be satisfactory to all the proprietors, and also to the directors, if the practice of the House of Commons were adopted, where the putting of questions was not restricted to any time unless business was actually in progress: that system never interfered with the debate. To answer a question did not take a moment, and was a saving instead of a waste of time. His reason for asking, in the outset, what expense attended the calling a special court, was because that circumstance might perhaps induce gentlemen not to sign a requisition; or might lead the directors not to sanction the making a quarterly court special at the instance of two proprietors. Now he knew that if some explanation did not take place this day, an hon. proprietor would move a resolution, relative to the shutting out of information from the court when it was required; a system founded on mere matters of form. Forms ought always to give way to expediency; they ought only to be resorted to, for the purpose of preventing inconvenience; and no inconvenience could arise from answering questions that would not take up a moment. He did, in gratitude to Mr. Marjoribanks, whom he would hold up as an example to other chairmen, move this resolution; because he could not but recollect his obliging conduct, in answering all questions while he was in the chair. His hon. friend (Dr. Gilchrist) had, on one occasion, put a most extraordinary question to that hon. Chairman, relative to the proving of fire-arms before they were sent out to India, which was immediately answered. He at the time considered this to be a very curious question; but he found out afterwards that the question was not put because a suspicion existed that fire-arms were not properly proved before they were sent out, but merely to afford an illustration of his hon. friend's subsequent argument, which was, that if care were taken to prove that the instruments of war sent out were perfect, no less care should be taken to prove the capability of the individuals by whom they were to be wielded and directed. He should take up no more of the time of the court, having explained why this proposition was so long delayed, and the reasons which had induced him to bring it forward. He was very anxious that the motion should pass unanimously; and he wished that some other rules, with respect to asking questions and giving notice of motions, should be laid down; rules that would not give offence to the proprietors. He was desirous of impressing on the attention of the Court of Directors the necessity of imparting information cheerfully to the proprietors, when it was called for. Why the directors

should turn their backs on the proprietors, when the latter were disposed to be civil to the former, he could not tell. He thought it material that this point, relative to the right of asking questions, should be arranged at once, without any special meeting being called for that purpose. The gallant General concluded by moving his resolution.

Dr. Gilchrist rose with great pleasure to second the motion; and he was ready to give a specific reason for taking that course. On a former occasion, when he was a humble functionary of the Company, he met with treatment from the late hon. chairman which, as he conceived, was not altogether proper; but circumstances had occurred since that period which caused him not only to forgive, but even to forget that treatment. Charity covered, and ought to cover, a multitude of sins, and he could not but recollect that the late chairman was the first individual on the other side of the bar who took pity on the sufferings of a poor man, who had been abruptly sent from India to starve in this country. He alluded to Mr. Arnott, who, when he arrived here, had nothing to subsist on. He had been thrown, as it were, naked on the world, when Mr. Marjoribanks kindly took him by the hand, and procured him some compensation for his losses and sufferings. There were two dark spots on the Company's escutcheon. One of them, that caused by the treatment of Mr. Arnott, had, thank God! been obliterated: the other, the case of Mr. Buckingham, which was too old a story to notice at length, still remained; and he feared it was too late to hope that any thing would be done for that gentleman, though it was better late than never. He agreed in what had fallen from the hon. mover with respect to Mr. Marjoribanks' conduct in the chair. To him (Dr. Gilchrist), whatever might have been his conduct on another occasion, to which he had referred, Mr. Marjoribanks appeared to have constantly acted like a considerate chairman. He did not adopt the tone and manner of a dictator; he felt that he was filling the chair for the benefit of the Company, and in that point of view he was satisfied with that gentleman's conduct. He recollected even when he (Dr. Gilchrist) asked the question about firearms, that Mr. Marjoribanks turned to the gentlemen around them, received the necessary information from them, and answered the interrogatory. He could not forget the kindness of his general conduct to gentlemen in that court. Whilst he was in the chair he never refused to answer a question, merely because some informality was attached to it. If he understood the business of the court, the rule now acted on was a new thing, which had

originated with the present chairman, and looked very like dictatorship; and he was afraid that this was not the only instance in which he played the dictator. (*Order!*) Some individuals might be afraid, from peculiar circumstances, to look the directors in the face; but he was the man who would appear there, even if alone, to defend every privilege he had a right to claim, so long as he had a foot to stand on, or a voice to make himself heard. There were some lines, written by Shakespeare which he thought might be quoted with advantage in that court, to encourage men not to suffer themselves to be trampled on, and not to bow to the dictates of any individual, unless those dictates were in perfect consonance with the customs of the court. He would now read his extract from an English author. He would not trouble the gentlemen behind the bar with any oriental quotations, of which, he believed, they could make very little, though some of them had been much later in India than he had. Shakspeare then said:

"For who would bear the whips and scorns of time,

Th' oppressor's wrong, the proud man's contumely,

The pangs of despis'd *worth*,

The insolence of office, and the spurns

That patient merit of the unworthy takes?"

He would answer the question—he would bear them, because his independent mind taught him to despise them, and by persevering exertion he hoped to overcome them. That done, he would endeavour to forgive and forget those who had endeavoured to annoy him. With regard to himself as an individual, he would stand before the hon. Chairman, and tell him that he had not been courteous to gentlemen on that side of the court. (*Order!*) He had called a number of gentlemen "a set of requisitionists." He might as well call them a pack—a crew. This certainly was not civil language. (*Loud cries of "Order!"*) He confessed he did not think it very civil to call a body of respectable men "a set of persons," who did nothing but draw up requisitions. He had himself, on a former occasion, when his propositions were rejected, and an adverse amendment was carried, been stigmatized, in Johnsonian style, as "a visionary enthusiast." This was the language of the Chairman; and what, he asked, was "a visionary enthusiast," in plain terms, but a madman? He had been called a madman, but that was nothing new to him. (*Much laughter.*) So far from being irritated at this, he adverted to it merely as language that ought not to be used by the Chairman; he ought not to call any person a visionary enthusiast. What was worse, he had been stigmatized as a jobber. Now, if there

were

were any man (and he had been known on the stage of public life for thirty years) who was less a jobber or less connected with jobbers than he had been, or who disliked jobbing more than he did, that man he should like to have pointed out to him. This accusation was re-echoed in India, through the medium of *The Government Gazette*, where it was asserted "that he (Dr. Gilchrist) was mean enough to be looking up to a job, to procure which was the object of Mr. Hume." On the occasion to which reference was here made, he (Dr. Gilchrist) was misunderstood by his friend Mr. Hume. The article in question went on to state, that "the fact was afterwards alluded to by the then Deputy Chairman," who now filled the chair.

The *Deputy Chairman* (the Hon. Hugh Lindsay).—"I rise to order. We are now discussing the merits of the late Chairman, with which the conduct of the present Chairman has nothing to do; and I must say, that the learned proprietor seems to have applied to himself that which I will venture to assert was not intended by the hon. Chairman. I beg, therefore, that the learned proprietor will confine himself to the only question before us—the merits of the late Chairman."

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—"We can only estimate a man's merits by comparison."

The *Chairman*.—"I am obliged to my hon. friend for his interference; but I have to intreat that the court will indulge the hon. proprietor to any extent he pleases to go, in discussing the *demerits* of your *present* Chairman, the question before the court being the *merits* of your *late* Chairman. (*Hear, hear!*) I should be very sorry to interrupt the hon. proprietor, because I can solemnly assure the court, that nothing that can fall from the hon. proprietor can produce in my mind any other feeling but that of pity. I treat his observations, so far as they respect myself, with perfect contempt." (*Hear, hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* said that compliment was perfectly reciprocal, and he threw it back to the hon. Chairman. (*Cries of "Order!" and much confusion.*) Would gentlemen, who were crying "Order," like to be treated in this way, and not throw back the insult? He would not tamely receive an insult from any man; and if the hon. Chairman gave him a Rowland, he would return it with an Oliver. Character could only be known by comparison, as a man's countenance was marked out by the reflection of the looking-glass; and perhaps the character of Mr. Marjoribanks stood higher, because he answered questions which another chairman would not. And on what ground did his refusal rest? On nothing but his *own ipse dixit*, at least so far as he could

discover. He had been studying the by-laws and Mr. Auber's book, and he could not see a line that debarred gentlemen from asking questions before the business of the day had commenced. If the hon. Chairman made a new rule, let it be so; he and other proprietors would submit to it as long as they could not help themselves, but no longer. In his opinion, the court had shewn too much passive obedience, had manifested too much submission to the Court of Directors. The learned proprietor was then proceeding [as we understood, for there was much noise in the court] to make some observations on a circumstance which had occurred, when Mr. Wigram, he being in the chair,* had refused to answer a question.

Mr. *Wigram* wished to set the learned proprietor right on this point. On the occasion alluded to, an hon. proprietor had made some observations on what he (Mr. Wigram) had said, and to those observations he had at once replied.

Mr. *Pattison* said he rose to a point of order. If this sort of discussion were suffered to go on, it could in effect end only in a vote of censure on all the gentlemen who had filled that chair for some years past, with the exception of one. "You, sir, (continued Mr. Pattison) have, in my opinion, acted as an excellent and impartial chairman." (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. *Wigram* said, he must consider his hon. friend out of order, in going into the general merits of the question.

Mr. *Pattison*.—"If I am out of order, I am only following the example of others; it is not my own seeking. I wish to draw the attention of the Court of Proprietors to the condition in which the Court of Directors will be placed if the proceedings go on in this manner, each director rising as if to defend himself against a vote of censure."

Col. *L. Stanhope*.—"I think the hon. director is quite out of order. — (*Laughter.*) He complains of my learned friend for touching on a particular subject, and yet he goes to the same subject himself, and thus continues the discussion. He is, therefore, out of order." (*Much confusion.*)

Mr. *Pattison*.—"I am not out of order; but from a general respect to the whole body of proprietors here assembled, I beg leave to draw their attention to what must be the condition of the constituted authorities if"—(*Cries of "Order!"*)

* We believe the allusion was made to what took place in the General Court on the 11th of February 1824, when the case of the Marquess of Hastings was first introduced by Sir J. Doyle. On that occasion, Mr. Wigram, who was then chairman, declined answering certain questions that were put to him, on the ground that he had received no instructions from the Court of Directors, of which he was the organ.—*Vide Asiatic Journal*, vol. xvii. p. 302.

The *Chairman*.—"I really must confess, that I think my hon. friend is out of order. I feel, as much as my hon. friend on the floor, the inconvenience which attends a discussion of this kind; I should, therefore, let the learned Doctor proceed; I should leave it to himself to select his topics."

Mr. *Pattison*.—"I shall sit down very patiently, expecting my turn to come."—*(A laugh.)*

Dr. *Gilchrist* said, he should close the subject by making a remark on one expression that had fallen from the hon. director (Mr. Pattison). That hon. director had spoken of a vote of censure. Now it was possible that such a thing might be moved; It was possible that he might move or second such a proposition. If he thought it necessary, he would not hesitate to bring forward such a motion, as he had proposed to do in the case of Lord Amherst.

The *Deputy Chairman*.—"I call the learned proprietor to order. We are not discussing the conduct of Lord Amherst. I beg that the learned proprietor will confine himself to the conduct of the late Chairman."

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—All he had further to say was, that, comparatively, he considered Mr. Marjoribanks to have been a very good chairman. No proprietor had to complain of being put down by that gentleman, when he asked questions which he thought necessary.

Capt. *Maxfield* said it was with infinite concern he had observed the turn which the debate had taken. His learned friend seemed to be much offended at an expression which had fallen from the hon. Chairman; but he (Capt. Maxfield) must beg leave to say, that he interpreted that expression very differently from his learned friend; he did not think the expression alluded to was meant for himself, for instance; he did not believe it was meant offensively; and he felt it but fair, as he and his learned friend took a different view of this point, to state his opinion distinctly, and to endeavour to bring his learned friend over to his view of the matter. He thought that the less discussion which took place on this subject the better; this must be evident to all. While Mr. Marjoribanks was in the chair, he certainly was satisfied with his conduct to the proprietors; but, though that was the case, he was not disposed to draw any invidious comparison between him and others.—*(Hear!)*

Mr. *Weeding* said this was one of the most extraordinary questions ever proposed to the court of proprietors, and he had many objections to it. If they considered it with reference to precedent, it was quite clear that no precedent of such a nature could be found; and he should

be very sorry to assist in creating one. The hon. gentleman had not sufficiently accounted for the long delay which had taken place, after the way had been pointed out to him of getting over the difficulty which he at first met with; the motion therefore wore the aspect of indifference, if not of affront, to the gentleman in whose favour it was intended. *(Hear!)* He had a much stronger objection to it, from its being avowedly made for the purpose of drawing a comparison to the prejudice of other members of the court of directors. He (Mr. Weeding) knew of no superiority which the late Chairman (and he spoke it with all respect for him) possessed over any of his colleagues, who had been raised by the choice of their own body to the high and dignified station of Chairman of the East India Company. *(Hear!)* Whether it were for talent, for application to business, for courtesy, or for any other quality with which it were desirable for a public functionary to be endued, he knew of no superiority which the late Chairman possessed over the rest of his colleagues. He said this, not in disparagement of him, for he believed that he would himself be willing to admit the justice of the observation, and that he would scorn to receive one jot of applause in the way it was now proffered, at the expense of the due merit of his associates. *(Hear, hear!)* The strongest objection which he had to the motion was founded on the respect which he (Mr. Weeding) entertained for the general court itself. The proposition was totally unworthy of their deliberative vote. *(Hear, hear!)* To thank a gentleman, and still more to thank him ten months after he had quitted the chair, notwithstanding the lame apology offered for the delay, for the mere outward signs of gentlemanly behaviour, for civility and courtesy, merely while presiding over their deliberations, was a proposition which he trusted the court would mark their reprehension of by refusing to entertain it. *(Hear!)* It would be a bitter sarcasm upon the court itself if such a motion could pass, as well as upon the hon. gentlemen, in whose favour it was proposed. *(Hear!)* He trusted that the gentlemen behind the bar would place so much confidence in those before the bar, as to rest assured, that the latter would never suffer unjust and invidious comparisons and reflections to sway their deliberations in that court. The great majority of the court, he was sure, would be ever ready to defend their executive body against unfounded clamour and vituperation, and to uphold the Chairman of the court in the firm, manly, and judicious exercise of his authority. *(Hear, hear!)* He had heard from one quarter of the court something like a menace of

a vote of censure upon gentlemen behind the bar. Those from whom it came should reflect, that votes of censure might be passed upon members of the constituent as well as the elected body; and if motions, such as that now before them, were persevered in, if the court were summoned and its time consumed by a repetition of the same trifling, useless, and unmeaning propositions, its patience might be at length exhausted, and a severe and merited animadversion be recorded against those who were the cause of it. He should sit down with moving the "previous question" on the motion before them.—(*Hear, hear!*)

Col. L. Stanhope said, that throughout the whole of his argument the hon. proprietor who had just sat down was in error, with respect to the proceedings of this day. In the first place, he had accused the hon. mover with having been dilatory in bringing forward this measure. It was not, however, the fault of his gallant friend, but of persons in power, who had not attended to his requisition. The hon. proprietor said there was no precedent for a motion of this kind: why they had a very late precedent in the House of Commons. (*A laugh.*) At the meeting of Parliament after the general election the present speaker was re-elected, and an eloquent eulogium was passed on him for his former conduct in the chair. With respect to Mr. Marjoribanks, he agreed, generally, in all the eulogiums that had been passed on him by his gallant friend. As for any invidious remarks that had been made by his learned friend, he must say that the present Chairman had always, in his opinion, acted with exceeding courtesy to that court—(*Hear, hear!*); though he must say, he did not approve of his preventing questions to be asked before going into the business of the day. It was the practice of Parliament, and a very useful one, to allow questions to be put before motions came on. He must, however, observe, that a good deal of sparring had been carried on between his learned friend and the hon. Chairman; who, he thought, conducted himself towards his learned friend (but certainly towards no other person) with a degree of sharpness that was not altogether becoming. For Mr. Marjoribanks he certainly felt a great degree of respect, though he did not know him; and though, on one occasion, he had given him a very unbecoming answer.—(*Laughter.*) He stated to Mr. Marjoribanks, in that court, when he filled the chair, that he had received a letter, purporting to come from the twenty-four directors, calling on him to vote for certain individuals to fill up vacancies in the direction; he mentioned this practice as extremely impro-

per, because it was using a most undue influence, and he asked Mr. Marjoribanks whether the letter was sent by authority or not? The answer was, that if he (Col. Stanhope) did not like the letter, he might put it in the fire.—(*A laugh.*) Now the present Chairman, he believed, would not have returned such an answer.

Dr. Gilchrist.—"I think my gallant friend is under a mistake. I believe it was you, sir, who gave that answer?"

The Chairman.—"No."

Dr. Gilchrist.—"I stand corrected."

The Chairman.—"I think it is desirable that the proprietors should hear something from me before this question is decided; and I do assure the court that I should not have said a word on this occasion, in reference to the allusions made to myself, if they had not been of a very personal nature. I have great satisfaction in reflecting that the proceedings of the Court of Directors have generally been supported by the great body of proprietors; and whenever a division has taken place, it has always ended in a way that was most gratifying to my own feelings. (*Hear!*) Therefore, it is not with reference to myself as an individual, or to my private feelings, but with reference to the discharge of my public duties, that I wish to detain the court for a short time. When I am charged with disrespect in addressing those whom I am anxious to honour and respect—I mean the court collectively—when I am accused of having laid down rules which were not customary in the proceedings of this court, I answer clearly and distinctly, that such is not the case. If, when questions have been put to me by individual members, the matter had dropped on an answer having been given, I beg to assure the court I should always have been ready to satisfy such inquirers: but when I saw that a question never was put to which an answer was given that a debate and discussion did not arise out of it, then I certainly felt that I was maintaining the regularity of the proceedings of this court by stopping so inconvenient a practice; (*hear!*) and in so doing I feel at this moment that I best discharged my duty. It has been said, that by this course of proceeding a great deal of expense has been incurred by the directors, to the detriment of the Company. Now I am not aware how that fact can in any case be made out; and I am quite sure that if any expense has arisen from the proceedings in this court, it has been a wasteful expense of time, and not of money: because I believe that special courts cost the company very little. The expense is nothing; but the inconvenience to gentlemen is very considerable. (*Hear!*) A circumstance which has been particularly noticed by the gallant general, relates to the conduct

conduct observed by the Court of Directors when notice of this motion was first intimated to them. If this notice had been regularly sent in on the requisition of nine proprietors, it would have been incumbent on the Court of Directors to have called a special court for the consideration of this motion. But I maintain that, when a notice of motion is sent in to the Court of Directors signed only by two proprietors, it is not incumbent on them to call a special court; it then becomes totally a matter of discretion whether they will do so or not: and when information was given to the two hon. proprietors who signed the requisition in this case, of the determination of the Court of Directors, they were treated with all the respect due to such a motion, by being reminded that, if they did not choose to call a special court, by procuring the signatures of nine proprietors to a requisition, still it was in the power of any proprietor, at a quarterly general court, to bring forward any question he pleased. I think, therefore, that with respect to those two points which are advanced as charges against the Court of Directors, a simple explanation of the facts is sufficient to exonerate them. I have never been an advocate for encroaching on the rights of any individual, much less have I ever attempted or thought of encroaching on the rights of the proprietors, whose privileges I will ever maintain and support. (*Hear!*) I shall sit down perfectly satisfied with the position in which I stand with reference to the feelings of the great body of proprietors; and I care not for the opinions expressed by disappointed individuals, who may think proper to compare my conduct with that of my worthy predecessor."—(*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. *Gahagan* wished to make one observation with respect to what had fallen from the hon. Chairman on a former day, and which was not at all irrelevant to some of the matters that had been brought forward on the present occasion. At the time to which he referred, he had, when the general court was about to commence the regular business, tendered himself to the notice of the chair, stating that he would not occupy the court for more than an instant. The hon. Chairman on that occasion, and also the hon. director (Mr. *Wigram*), acted, in his opinion, quite correctly when they observed, that one question, even when properly answered, led to fifty others; and therefore declined to indulge him. He (Mr. *Gahagan*), when he found, as was the fact, that his question was likely to lead to a desultory conversation, desisted. This conduct, he thought, was perfectly correct; and he believed that if, on any simple question being put, it was under-

stood that the answer of the directors should be received as final, they would always, except under very extraordinary circumstances indeed, be ready to satisfy the proprietors. (*Hear!*) As to the motion before the court, it appeared to him to be so positively ludicrous and absurd, that he should not be surprised, were it agreed to, if, on the next ballot day, some facetious gentleman should move a vote of thanks to the individual who had shewn most skill in making their chocolate, coffee, or tea. He really thought that if Mr. *Marjoribanks* happened to meet the gallant general in the street, after the proposition was decided in the negative, that he would be very apt to congratulate the gallant general, as he must certainly congratulate himself, on the loss of such a motion.

Sir. *C. Forbes* said that, no doubt, the asking of questions did, to a certain degree, retard the business; but by no means to the extent that had been insinuated. In fact, it must be viewed entirely as a matter of courtesy; and, whenever a desultory conversation occurred on a question being put from one side of the bar to the other, it ought at once to be put an end to. Still, however, it was important to all the parties concerned that gentlemen should be allowed to put questions at that period which appeared to be the most convenient, and he was convinced that the hon. Chairman never was disposed to discountenance the practice: he therefore intreated the gentlemen behind the bar not to push any rule to such an extent as would have the effect of restricting and restraining the proprietors in the exercise of so very useful a mode of obtaining information.

The *Deputy Chairman* was desirous, as allusion had been made to the mode of proceeding in the House of Commons, to say one word on that subject. He believed that, when important questions were intended to be put in that house, courtesy induced those who meant to ask such questions to give notice of their intention to the members from whom they expected an answer, to enable the latter to acquire all the information which was necessary to meet such interrogatories satisfactorily. Now he was sure, if gentlemen had the courtesy to state any question they meant to put in that court, a day or two before their intention was to be carried into effect, it would enable those upon whom they called to answer correctly. (*Hear!*) This could not be expected otherwise; for, he would venture to say, that it was impossible for gentlemen behind the bar to contain in their heads a full recollection of all the matters on which they might be questioned, and relative to which a prompt answer might be required. If gentlemen,

men, in future, pursued the course which he had recommended, their applications would meet with that courtesy which, he was sure, the chairman, deputy-chairman, and the whole court of directors, were always anxious to manifest towards the proprietors. (*Hear!*)

Gen. Thornton said that, notwithstanding all that had been advanced against his motion, he thought he was perfectly right in bringing it forward. It had been said that one question generally produced fifty others, but he confessed that he did not recollect any instance of that kind since he became a member of the court, and he believed the circumstance originated in the imagination of the gentleman who had made the statement. With regard to what the hon. Chairman had said relative to questions having the effect of bringing on discussions, he must beg leave to say, that if such were the case, the fault rested with the hon. Chairman himself, who should immediately stop such discussions, because they undoubtedly were irregular, and created much confusion: for, if one gentleman spoke, fifty had a right to take the same course. He wished for no such irregularity; all he contended for was, that they should merely adopt the practice of the House of Commons (which was an extremely good one); namely, that when a proprietor asked a question at a convenient time, he should at once receive an answer. The only satisfactory suggestion he had heard was that which had been thrown out by the Deputy Chairman. He agreed with him, that the mode which he pointed out was a very good one; and he (Gen. Thornton) hoped the proprietors would attend to it; and, whenever an opportunity occurred, he would, beforehand, frame his question, and have it submitted to the proper authority. He bowed to the chair; and he wished to be treated with that courtesy which he himself never departed from. In obedience to this feeling, he should adopt the recommendation of the Deputy Chairman, and previously state to the Chairman, when it was practicable, any question he meant to put. But circumstances might occur in that court, relative to which questions ought to be asked on the moment, and he trusted they would not remain unanswered because no previous communication had been made. It was a serious matter to be called on to wait till seven or eight o'clock in the evening before he could put a question, when circumstances prevented him from making so long a stay; whereas, no inconvenience could arise from answering a question, or receiving a notice of motion immediately, which would not take up a minute. He was perfectly satisfied, after what he had

heard on both sides of the question, with the consciousness of having done his duty. His motion had been attended with some good effect; and, whatever might be its fate, he hoped the proprietors would, in future, meet with more courtesy from the directors. He trusted that they would treat one another hereafter with more good temper; and that, on one each side, there would be manifested a feeling of kindness, which, like "the quality of mercy,"

"Is twice bless'd!

"It blesteth him that gives, and him that takes."

The previous question, viz. "That this question be now put," was put from the chair, and negatived. Gen. Thornton's motion, of course, fell to the ground.

THANKS TO JACOB BOSANQUET, ESQ.

The Chairman.—The next notice on the paper is, to submit to the court a motion, expressing the sentiments of the proprietors on the retiring of Jacob Bosanquet, Esq. from his seat in the direction, and to call for the production of any correspondence between the Court of Directors and Mr. Bosanquet on that occasion.

Mr. Twining begged, in pursuance of the notice which he had given on a former occasion, that the Chairman would permit the documents then alluded to by him to be read to the court.

The proper officer then read the following papers:—

"*Broxbournebury, 23d February, 1827.*

"My dear Sir:—It is now nearly half a century since I was chosen a member of that court over which you so honourably preside. It will not therefore be matter of surprise, that I should feel my health admonishes me to retire from a post which requires greater energies of mind and body than I can now bestow, in the discharge of the important duties which necessarily devolve on a Director of the East India Company. I have accordingly determined to resign my seat in the direction, and have taken measures to announce the same to the proprietors at large; but it is through you that I am anxious to make known my resolution to the Court of Directors, with whom I have been so long associated. Differences of opinion there must necessarily have been, but I have the satisfaction of knowing, so far as my own feelings are concerned, that I retire from the direction with a sincere regard towards all its members, individually and collectively, and that I shall only cease with my life to entertain the warmest wishes for their prosperity and happiness. I desire to assure you, my dear Sir, of the personal satisfaction which I experience in your being the channel through which my sentiments may be conveyed to the court; and that I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) "JACOB BOSANQUET."

"Sir G. A. Robinson, Bart., Chairman, &c. &c."

India House, 23d Feb. 1827.

"My dear Sir:—Your son, Mr. Richard Bosanquet, delivered into my hands this morning the letter with which you favoured me, announcing your determination to retire from the direction. I do assure you most unfeignedly, that the communication occasioned to me feelings both of regret and satisfaction,—regret that by your retirement we shall lose a member for whom the court cherish a sincere regard and esteem,—satisfaction that the close of your association with us has been marked with the same honourable, disinterested, and independent character which you have invariably maintained

maintained throughout the unprecedented term during which you have been a director. I feel it to be due to you to summon a Special Court, for the purpose of making known your determination. The court met this day; they most sensibly appreciated the mode in which you conveyed to them the intimation of your intention; and I feel that I cannot discharge the pleasing obligation imposed on me, in a way better calculated to do justice to the sentiments of the court, or to my own personal feelings, than by transmitting you the accompanying copy of an unanimous resolution which has been passed on the occasion. The Deputy Chairman joins me in the expression of our warmest wishes for your happiness; and I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) "G. A. ROBINSON."

"J. Bosanquet, Esq. &c. &c."

"At a Court of Directors held on Friday the 23d February, 1827 :—

"Resolved unanimously:—That whilst this court deeply regret the cause of Mr. Bosanquet's relinquishment of his seat in the direction, they cannot view the close of a connexion which has subsisted during so extended a period, with so much honour to himself, and with so much advantage to the interests of the East India Company, without recording the high sense which they entertain of his long, disinterested and valuable services; and assuring him of their most cordial wishes for his health and happiness in his honourable retirement."

"Broxbournebury, 24th Feb. 1827.

"My dear Sir:—I have had the honour to receive your letter of yesterday's date, conveying to me the unanimous resolution which the Court of Directors have been pleased to adopt on the occasion of my retirement. I trust that I appreciate as I ought this valuable and honourable mark of their regard, as well as the flattering manner in which that proceeding took place; and I have to intreat that you will add to the obligations which you have already conferred upon me, by presenting to the court my warmest and grateful acknowledgments. Were any thing wanting to satisfy me of the propriety of the step which I have taken, I should find it in the opinion with which you have been so good as to favour me in your communication. I request you to convey to the Deputy Chairman the expression of my sincere regard, and that you will accept the renewed assurance of the esteem with which,

"I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) "JACOB BOSANQUET."

"Sir G. A. Robinson, Bart. &c. &c."

The documents having been read—

Mr. Twining rose and said:—"Mr. Chairman; I consider, Sir, that I could not introduce the subject on which I mean this day to found a motion in a better or more forcible manner, than by laying before the court the documents which have just been read: and, perhaps, I should act wisely in reference to those whom I address, as well as to myself, were I at once and without further preface to propose the motion which I am proud in having pledged myself to bring forward. But I think it a mark of respect due to this court, and to their late director (Mr. Bosanquet) to state a few circumstances connected with his public life, which will enable these proprietors who may be less acquainted with his character, justly to estimate his worth; and I claim the indulgence of the court, whilst I state those circumstances as briefly as I can, desirous as I am that they should be fully acquainted with the grounds on which my motion rests. The feelings of respect which I have long and sincerely entertained for Mr. Bosanquet, would have induced me to support any

motion similar to that which I am about to propose; or I might have been impelled to take the same course by the lively recollection of the warm friendship which had subsisted, for many years, between Mr. Bosanquet and one, whose memory must ever influence my conduct by every sentiment of duty and affection. Strongly, however, as these considerations operated on my mind, I should not have felt myself warranted in acting on them alone, and bringing the subject before the court, had I not believed that such a proceeding was strictly in unison with their general opinion. And here I hope I may be allowed to say that, in bringing forward this motion, I have had no idea of making invidious comparisons. I take up the matter solely with reference to the honourable object of my motion; and, while framing it, I could not but think of many eminent characters who had quitted the direction to whom high praise was due—men mature in experience, strong in judgment, and upright in conduct. But in considering the merits of Mr. Bosanquet, I do not feel it necessary to turn aside from what appears to me to be the proper course, for the purpose of instituting comparisons; and I trust that the court will do me the justice to believe, that I have no object in view beyond the plain and simple one which I have stated.

"Sir, Mr. Bosanquet's case contains many circumstances of a peculiar nature. In the first place, I would notice length of service, if I may be allowed the expression. I would also notice the fact of his having been for many years father of the direction, and his having on various occasions filled very prominent and responsible situations. If, in enumerating that gentleman's services, I allude particularly to any instance in which, as chairman, he has shown himself an able supporter of the Company's interests, I beg to be understood as not meaning to claim all the praise for him, knowing that the acts which pass from the chair are in a great measure to be traced to the united efforts of the whole direction: I do not, therefore, desire that Mr. Bosanquet should receive more credit than is actually due to him. The period during which Mr. Bosanquet remained in the direction was, I believe, unprecedented in the annals of this, or of any other company. Mr. Bosanquet entered the direction in 1784, and therefore, at the time of his resignation, had been attached to it for nearly half a century. In the course of such a number of years, at any time, the events must be manifold and important; but, perhaps, in no previous half century had such extraordinary events occurred—events, not merely important to the Company, but to the nation at large. I will not attempt to go through a history of all those

these events, but I will touch on a few of them, which were connected with the career of Mr. Bosanquet. Scarcely had he taken his seat in the direction, when Mr. Fox's India Bill drew forth all the efforts and energies of the Court of Directors and of the Company, to make an efficient stand against it; and it is proper to state, that Mr. Bosanquet was one of those directors who received, by name, the thanks of this court, for their upright, manly, and persevering conduct in upholding those franchises, which were then threatened by the bill about to be passed.

"The war, which gave to the Company possession of Mysore was concluded in 1799—and the fall of Seringapatam must be viewed as one of the most glorious events recorded in the history of the India Company. Mr. Bosanquet was at the time chairman of the Court of Directors, who received the thanks of this court, 'for their watchful and unremitting attention to every possible danger which might threaten our possessions in India;' and 'for the decisive aid which they afforded their governors abroad.'—Thus reducing the labours and lessening the hazards of those brave men who carried on the war, and who brought it to a successful issue.

"The words of a gallant and eloquent historian (Sir John Malcolm), who I am happy to hear is about to return to India as one of the Company's highest functionaries, might here be quoted with propriety.—'Such,' said he, 'was the termination of a war, which whether we consider the temper and wisdom that marked the negotiations by which it was preceded, the ability and courage with which it was prosecuted, or the important political consequences by which it was attended, will be found unparalleled in the annals of British India. In the short period of a few months a rival power was destroyed, which, from the day of its existence to that of its dissolution (a period of thirty-eight years), might be said to have directed all its efforts against the English power in India.'

"I now come to a transaction which you, sir, who so ably fill that chair, would perhaps wish me to pass over in silence, from the share which you yourself bore in it: but, estimable as that feeling is, I am confident that the court would not wish it to prevent my stating, that in 1822, Mr. Bosanquet and Sir George (then Mr.) Robinson were appointed commissioners on behalf of the Company, to consult upon the settlement of most complicated accounts, which had long subsisted between government and the Company. The judicious labours of the commissioners in investigating these accounts, connected as they were with many circumstances

of difficulty and delicacy, materially assisted the Court of Directors in bringing the negotiation to a conclusion, which—(I think I adopt the very words of the then chairman, Mr. Pattison)—was deemed a 'fair, legitimate, and honourable adjustment.' By that settlement the sum of £1,300,000 was paid to the Company; and the commissioners received the thanks of this court for their able services. I will not occupy the time of the court by going through any further details relative to our late worthy director. It is to me, I confess, a matter of pride and exultation, to rise in my place for the purpose of proposing this resolution;—and I do it the more gladly from recollecting, that on *ten* occasions Mr. Bosanquet received from the proprietors their suffrages which placed him behind the bar; whilst the good opinion, expressed by those suffrages, was proudly confirmed to him by his being elected, on *six* occasions, to fill the chairs. In the course of that period Mr. Bosanquet has, I believe, in three instances assisted in the renewal of the Company's charter, and I most sincerely hope he will live to see it renewed for the fourth time. (*Hear!*) Mr. Bosanquet, indeed, will no longer be able to afford the Company the benefit of his exertions; but as long as he exists my much respected friend will be interested in every thing connected with the privileges of the India Company. No longer enabled to contribute the assistance of his counsels, his delight will be, from the height of his honourable and dignified retirement,

— *Magnum alterius spectare laborem.*

However arduous the labours may be on that important occasion, I trust that he will see them brought to an honourable conclusion. (*Hear!*) I may, I hope, be allowed to observe, that on this point I am no less interested than my hon. friend, persuaded as I am, that the more the sacred rights, the more the privileges of this great company are upheld, the more will the interests and happiness of the natives of India be consulted,—and in the same proportion will the resources of that country continue to contribute to the strength and dignity of the British empire. (*Hear, hear!*)

"Mr. Bosanquet is now quitting us—and we are parting from an old and well-tried friend, who, I am confident, carries with him the good-will and respect of all who have witnessed his labours, or are acquainted with his virtues. His colleagues have most feelingly expressed their deep sense of Mr. Bosanquet's long and eminent services: this mark of esteem must be exceedingly gratifying; but the measure of praise will not be completed until Mr. Bosanquet has received the public

approbation of his constituents. That great reward of his various labours will, I trust, be now conferred upon him, and indeed, I can have no doubt on the subject.

“Grateful, sincerely grateful, for the indulgent and encouraging attention of this numerous and respectable court, I will no longer occupy their time, but submit to them the motion, which I hope will, notwithstanding any imperfections in the mode of bringing it forward, receive their unanimous support.”

The hon. proprietor then moved,—

“That the thanks of this Court be presented to Jacob Bosanquet, Esq., for his upright and independent conduct during the period of his occupying a seat in the direction of their affairs (a period extending nearly to half a century), and for his uniform and zealous exertion at all times to uphold the rights and privileges, and promote the interests of the East India Company.

“And that he be requested to accept, from this Court, the assurance that he retires from his public duties accompanied by their highest sentiments of respect and esteem, and by the most earnest wishes for his health and happiness.”

Sir C. Forbes said he rose with great pleasure to second this motion; for, though it might be asserted that he had hardly the honour of being acquainted with the gentleman who was the subject of it, still he could truly aver that he was no stranger to his conduct as a director, or to his virtues as a private individual. (*Hear!*) In both respects he had been accustomed to consider Mr. Bosanquet as one of the most able and excellent men he had ever known: (*Hear!*) he had met that honorable gentleman on some few occasions, and he was perfectly satisfied that, in all his public conduct, he was actuated by the purest, the most disinterested, the most independent, and the most unbending principles of honour and of justice. (*Hear!*) He believed there was no person, who had witnessed Mr. Bosanquet's conduct, that would not cordially join in the opinion which he now expressed. (*Hear!*) There were, however, some points on which he differed from Mr. Bosanquet; such, for instance, was the part which Mr. Bosanquet took, in 1813, with respect to the extension of the private trade. There he thought, the hon. gentleman was wrong, and the official results of the extension of the private trade to India had proved the fact. Whilst, however, he made this remark, he must say, that no doubt existed in his mind but that Mr. Bosanquet believed that what he advised at that time was for the good of India, and for the general benefit of the country. Differing from him as he did on that occasion, he deemed it right to make this observation. He most cordially concurred in all the praise which had been so ably and so feelingly bestowed on Mr. Bosanquet by the

hon. proprietor who had introduced this motion; and he thought that the hon. mover might, with great propriety, have expatiated on Mr. Bosanquet's benevolence of heart, and disinterestedness of conduct, in the disposal of his patronage. He had known many instances in which Mr. Bosanquet, without solicitation, had bestowed a portion of that patronage on the relatives and friends of deserving officers and servants of the East India Company, who had no other claim upon his attention but their merits. (*Hear, hear!*) He knew that Mr. Bosanquet had repeatedly acted thus without solicitation. He did not mean to say that this was exclusively the case with Mr. Bosanquet;—he believed many other gentlemen whom he then had in view had an equal right to praise for pursuing the same liberal course. In fact, with regard to patronage (although much had been invidiously said with respect to the manner in which it was disposed of), he believed that it was distributed in a very proper manner. He was not one of those who thought that the attainment of patronage was the grand and only object which gentlemen who had a seat within the bar kept in view; on the contrary, he believed that many honourable and disinterested men would be found, anxious to fill the situation of a director, even if there were less patronage; indeed, he was persuaded that the directors in general would much rather be without patronage. (*Hear!*) And why? because a man possessing patronage could not satisfy all applicants;—and where he obliged one person, he was forced to disoblige five hundred. (*Hear!*) He should now say one or two words with respect to the situation in which the directors were placed; and it was his decided opinion, that when a gentleman had spent the best part of his life in the Company's service—when he had exhausted twenty-five or thirty of his best years in performing the laborious duties of a director—it was right and proper that he should have it in his power to retire on a pension. He did not think such an arrangement could be fairly objected to; in his opinion, the directors of the Company had as good a right to look forward to a provision of that nature, in requital of their services, as the president of the Board of Control, or any other public officer whatsoever. At present, the president of the Board of Control shared very largely (more so, he believed, than the directors) in patronage; and, when he retired from office, he was allowed a handsome pension. This point was not, in his opinion, irrelevant to the present subject. Mr. Bosanquet having for near half a century filled the office of a director, was, as it appeared to him, worthy of the bounty as well as of the praise

praise of that court. It might be said that Mr. Bosanquet was in independent circumstances. This was, he believed, the fact; but that had nothing to do with the principle for which he contended; and, though Mr. Bosanquet was possessed of an ample competence, it might so happen that other gentlemen might not be so fortunately situated. At one time a director might be in affluent circumstances, but untoward events might occur to alter his situation, and reduce him to comparative want. Now he thought it extremely proper, if a director, after long and faithful service, relinquished his situation on account of an alteration in his circumstances, that he should have some provision made for him. He who was in the habit, for many years, of devoting his time and attention to the affairs of the Company's government, at home and abroad, richly deserved a reward of this kind. As to the salary of the directors, it was a mere nominal matter. He should conclude with expressing his most hearty concurrence in the vote of thanks proposed to Mr. Bosanquet. On this, and on all future occasions, he should sincerely join in a vote of thanks proposed to any of the honourable Court of Directors, so well deserved as the present was, for long, efficient, and disinterested services. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. Palmer felt greatly indebted to the hon. proprietor (Mr. Twining) for the motion which he had submitted to the court; a motion which gave to the proprietors at large an opportunity of speaking the sense they entertained of the long, zealous, and faithful services of their late excellent director, Jacob Bosanquet, Esq. In estimating the character of any public man, the question was, "*non quam diu sed quam bene gesserit*;" and, after hearing the account which had been given of the various services of Mr. Bosanquet, if that question were put to him with respect to this much esteemed individual, he should briefly answer, "*tam diu—tam bene*." (*Hear!*) In saying this, he believed he uttered the sentiments of every gentleman then present. It might be said, that the patronage of the directors amply repaid them for the duties which they undertook, and the services which they performed. He however, for one, freely confessed, that, in his opinion, were the attention, the close and constant attention, given by the hon. chairman and the other gentlemen behind the bar to the affairs of the Company, duly and candidly estimated, and a balance struck between their labours on the one side and their patronage on the other, the account would be found considerably against the Company. (*Hear!*) When he said this, he did not mean to undervalue the patro-

nage which the directors enjoyed; he was aware that it afforded the hon. Chairman, and the other gentlemen behind the bar, the pleasing opportunity of rewarding merit where it was conspicuous. (*Hear!*) It enabled them to become the fathers of the friendless. (*Hear!*) And placed it within their power to take by the hand the children of deserving families, which, but for their humane interposition, might probably fall into utter distress. (*Hear!*) That the hon. Chairman and his colleagues daily experienced feelings such as these, he was perfectly satisfied; and his earnest prayer was, that they might long live to experience them. (*Hear!*) He hoped, while on this topic, he should not be considered tedious or out of order if he related an anecdote, for the truth of which he pledged his character. A clergyman residing in the county of Hertford, and having a very large family, grown up, was advised to send his son out as a cadet, and the appointment was proffered, and the boon gratefully accepted. The young man was fitted out, and sailed for India; but the ship was unfortunately lost, and the youth perished with it. No sooner did the hon. director who had granted the cadetship, hear of this sad event, than he wrote to the young man's father, expressing his deep regret that any accidental circumstance should have occasioned the loss of so valuable a member of the rev. gentleman's family. He observed, that he knew not how to make up for the loss of such a son; and concluded by stating, that if any other of the gentleman's sons should wish to try his fortune in India, a writership was at his service. (*Hear, hear!*) The Rev. Mr. Lane, of Hertfordshire, was the clergyman to whom he alluded, and the hon. director was Jacob Bosanquet. (*Hear, hear!*) In mentioning this circumstance, he feared he ran the risk of incurring some displeasure from that hon. gentleman; because he believed that, in every instance, Mr. Bosanquet wished to conceal those acts of genuine benevolence which he so frequently performed; but he (Mr. Palmer) felt that he owed a duty to that court which was paramount to every other feeling, that of shewing to the world that their patronage was most honourably disposed of. (*Hear, hear!*) He conscientiously believed, taking it altogether, that no patronage in this country was more honourably disposed of than that of the Company. (*Hear!*) He should take up no more of their time but merely to declare his heartfelt concurrence in the motion, and to express his wish that the approbation of the court should, if it were not contrary to rule, be trusted to some more imperishable material than ink and paper. Not that Mr. Bosanquet

would value this mark of their esteem more on account of the medium through which it was conveyed; but he wished the approbation of that court to be placed before the eyes of his children, and his children's children, to stimulate them to follow the example of a parent, who had conducted himself, for so long a period of years, with so unimpeached and spotless a reputation. (*Hear!*) The vote of thanks, if there were no objection, might be engraved on a piece of plate; but if gentlemen did not approve of this suggestion, he trusted the occasion would plead his excuse for having made it.

Dr. *Gilchrist* hoped that, in rising on the present occasion, he should not be supposed as intending to offer one word against the motion then before the court; he cordially approved of the vote of thanks, and entirely coincided with the hon. mover in all that he had said. But still he trusted the court would not refuse to hear one or two observations, which were not unconnected with this subject. He considered the situation of a director as a most honourable and gratifying one. He, who held that high office, was enabled to assist the widow and the orphan, and to do an immensity of good. Such a situation every man would be happy to enjoy for the same length of time that it had been enjoyed by the late hon. director; a period, he believed, of nearly half a century. During that period, if he were not wrong in his calculation, Mr. Bosanquet must have had patronage at his command to the amount of nearly a million of money. (*Hear!*) He did not pretend to say that this was the fact; but such unquestionably was the rumour. He did not mean to censure him, or any other gentleman in the direction, for availing himself of the benefit which the system, as it now stood, presented to him. He was not at all to blame for taking his legitimate share of the good things, which the system, as it at present existed, so bountifully afforded. It was said in Parliament that "the machine (that was, the borough system) worked well." The same might be observed of the Company's system. It worked well for the gentlemen on the other side of the bar; but those on his side of that boundary (the many) were left to take care of themselves as they could. He did not mean to say one word in disparagement of Mr. Bosanquet. He believed, that he was in private life, an amiable character; and that, in his public capacity, he was a useful servant. Still he could not help thinking, that the reward which that gentleman, in common with the other directors, received, was fully commensurate with his labours. The delightful feeling which an honest man enjoyed, at the idea of his being able

to assist the distressed, was, in itself, a fortune. This alone was worth all the labour incident to a seat in the direction. It was no wonder that men should be anxious to be placed in a situation, where they had ample means to effect good. Opportunities were hourly occurring, where benefits could be conferred on their naval or military servants, or on the children of those who had shed their blood for the Company, on the field of battle; and had, by every exertion in their power, supported the honour, and sustained the interests of that great body by whom they were employed. The children of such men, who had spent their best days in the company's service, ought to be patronized, as far as they possibly could; and surely, so to bestow patronage was a real happiness; a sort of foretaste of that beatitude, which they were taught to hope for in another and a better world. He was very glad to find, that one director had the merit of putting this theory into practice; and he sincerely hoped, that all the gentlemen behind the bar, would follow the example; for precept was one thing, and example another. The anecdote, related by the hon. proprietor (Mr. Palmer) proved Mr. Bosanquet to be, what he had always supposed him, an honest, kind-hearted, and benevolent man.

Mr. *Twining* hoped he would be allowed to return his thanks to the Hon. Bart. for the kind and disinterested manner in which he seconded the motion; and also to the hon. proprietor who had dwelt so feelingly on the virtues of the hon. gentlemen who was the subject of this resolution. That hon. proprietor had thrown out a suggestion, on which he deemed it necessary to make a single observation. He could assure the hon. proprietor, that it was not from any disrespect, on his part, towards Mr. Bosanquet, that he declined acting on his suggestion; but from a well-founded feeling, that nothing could be more gratifying to Mr. Bosanquet, or could make a more indelible impression on the minds of his descendants, than the simple vote of thanks which was now proposed. He hoped it would be carried unanimously; and if it did so pass, as he was convinced it would, he should move, "that their worthy chairman do communicate the circumstance to Mr. Bosanquet." (*Hear.*)

The motion was then put from the chair, and carried unanimously, amidst loud applause.

Mr. *Twining* then moved, "that the chairman be requested to communicate to Mr. Bosanquet the resolution of the Court of Proprietors." Agreed.

PATRONAGE OF THE DIRECTORS.

The *Chairman*.—"The next notice on the

the paper is relative to a motion, "for a return of all writerships, cadetships, surgeon's appointments, nautical appointments, and all other patronage in the gift of the Court of Directors, during the years 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, 1824, 1825, and 1826."

Col. *L. Stanhope* said, he could not anticipate any objection to the production of this information; because, whatever their political opinions might be, all men must agree on this point, that it was essentially necessary, that the patronage of every great corporate body should be made known to the public; and, he believed, that, under every government, except that of the very worst species of tyranny, such information had never been withheld. It would be an insult to their understandings, to go into a lengthened discussion on this subject; because they must all be aware, that the people of India, and of this country, in short that the community at large, should be correctly informed with respect to the patronage of those who exercised sway and sovereignty over the distant provinces of this great empire. It was equally for the interest of the people of India and of this country, to know exactly the extent of patronage and of power, that was vested in the hands of the executive body. With respect to the Court of Directors themselves, he thought they were bound in honour not to keep this matter secret. If they acted with propriety, they could not disapprove of the production of this information; and, with regard to the proprietors, no man could say it was not right that they should be made acquainted with the patronage in the gift of the executive body. This was rendered the more necessary, because the extent of this patronage was very differently represented. For example, it had been stated by the learned doctor, that an hon. gentleman who had just received the thanks of the court, had, during his administration, a patronage worth a million of money at his disposal; whilst others declared, that the directors received a mere pultry remuneration of £300 a year, which was scarcely sufficient to pay for their wives' opera-boxes. (*A laugh!*) Again, it was asserted by one of the most distinguished men that ever looked into India affairs, no less an authority than Mr. Dundas, that the patronage of the East India Company, if placed in the hands of Ministers, was sufficient to corrupt both houses of parliament. This he quoted on the authority of Mr. Dundas, which, he believed, stood very high in that court. He felt it, therefore unnecessary to offer any farther observation, in support of the motion for the production of those papers. He could anticipate no reason for

the refusal of those returns. If the motion were complied with, he, of course, would say nothing farther; but if it met with opposition, he should take other measures to effect his object. The gallant officer then moved for the returns in the terms of his notice.

Capt. *Maxfield* seconded the motion.

The *Chairman*, "So far as writerships and cadetships are concerned, there is already before this court a return on the subject, which will, I think answer the purpose of the gallant Colonel's motion. The return to which I have alluded does not embrace the year 1826, but it is carried up to 1825, the Court of Directors have not the smallest objection to produce the return relative to the latter year. I am only speaking the sense of the Court of Directors when I assure the hon. proprietor that not the least intention exists of impeding or throwing any obstacle in the way of his motion, so far as it can be complied with. (*Hear!*) That motion embraces two or three other descriptions of appointments. It expressly mentions 'nautical appointments' (to the production of which there is no objection whatever;) and it calls likewise for a return of 'all other patronage' in the gift of the Court of Directors. Now if this last clause has reference to any individual patronage, I should be glad if the hon. proprietor would explain what it is, because neither myself nor my colleagues wish to keep any thing back. (*Hear!*) I am only aware of one other description of patronage, namely the appointment of labourers in the warehouses; and if the hon. proprietors wishes for a return under that head he may have it. I should also state that a return of many of the appointments for which the hon. proprietor has moved, from the year 1814 to the year 1821, has been laid before parliament."

Col. *L. Stanhope* wished to have returns of the appointments in the civil, ecclesiastical, medical, and military service, the Bombay marine, the pilot service in Bengal, and all marine appointments on the China, Singapore, and St. Helena establishments. Likewise the appointments in the colleges of Haileybury and Addiscombe, and in the home department, including law officers, &c.

The *Chairman* said, the appointments of assistant surgeons were completely embraced by the motion before the court: as to appointments in the colleges, they had nothing to do with patronage. The patronage only began, when a writership or a cadetship was granted.

Col. *L. Stanhope*.—"I mean the appointment of professors."

The *Chairman*.—"That can never be considered as individual patronage. The collective body appoint the professors. There

There is, in those cases, no individual patronage. The same may be said, with respect to the appointment of chaplains. I wish to conceal nothing from the gallant officer; I am really most anxious to give him every information in my power." (*Hear.*)

Col. L. Stanhope was grateful for the information which the hon. Chairman had imparted. He wished to know whether the second sort of patronage which had been alluded to was shared by the directors generally, or by the Court of Directors and proprietors jointly.

The Chairman.—"The hon. proprietor is to understand, that certain appointments are in the gift of individual directors. This comes, I think, strictly under the name of patronage. But if an office is vacant, which office is to be filled up by the Court of Directors collectively, I do not deem that appointment to be patronage. If, on the nomination of any particular director, a situation is conferred on an individual, that unquestionably would be patronage; but the case is different where the situation is given by the collective body. When a question of that description is brought forward—when a variety of opinions prevail, as to the merits of any individuals proposed for any office, and when the business is decided by a majority of the court, that I consider to be entirely apart from patronage. Thus, the filling up of the situation of governor-general cannot be viewed as a part of the patronage of the Court of Directors."

Dr. Gilchrist.—"It is patronage, no doubt, though of a different specie."

Col. L. Stanhope.—"My wish is to procure an account of the whole of the patronage, I care not what its description may be. (*Hear!*) I and my fellow-proprietors receive no portion of that patronage. It is given to the particular friends of the directors, instead of being distributed generally to the people of this country."

Capt. Maxfield wished to ask, whether the China voyages did not form a part of the patronage? It used to be so, and very fat pickings they afforded.

The Chairman.—"As I before stated, the Court of Directors have no objection whatever to give the utmost information in their power, with respect to every species of appointments that can properly be classed under the head of patronage."

Dr. Gilchrist was of opinion that his gallant friend wanted an account of all patronage, whether it was disposed of individually or collectively. It was an easy matter for a corporation to say, because an office was disposed of by a vote of a majority of the directing body, that, therefore, there was no patronage in the case. The contrary was clearly manifest. If

his Majesty's ministers were to say, that the disposal of such and such offices must be decided by the whole cabinet, instead of being placed under the dominion of an individual, could any one be hardy enough to assert that this was not patronage?

Mr. Weeding said, that as a member of the East-India Company, he should feel very sorry to say a word against the concession of any proposition which appeared likely to advance the general good of his brother proprietors. But he submitted that the present motion was useless, inasmuch as they could not, under the existing law, alter the disposition of this patronage, or interfere with it in any case whatever. Such being the fact, he would ask, *eni bomo*, to what beneficial object the present motion was directed—what salutary end could it answer? Now, unless the gallant officer could point out to them what good was likely to be derived from his motion; unless he could shew that it was not brought forward merely to gratify his own curiosity, and that of other gentlemen; unless he could satisfy the court that he had some better purpose in view, he (Mr. Weeding) should certainly oppose the proposition. (*Hear!*) When this court could not alter one iota in the mode of distributing patronage—on what ground, and for what purpose, he desired to know, were all these returns to be forthcoming? (*Hear!*) He hoped the court would reject the motion. He, for one, certainly should oppose it, unless it were proved to him that other proceedings, and those of a beneficial nature, were likely to grow out of this proposition. (*Hear!*)

Col. L. Stanhope conceived that the hon. proprietor who had last spoken had, in fact, nothing to do with the business. The Chairman had been asked whether he would agree to the production of certain papers; and he had answered in the affirmative. After this, he (Col. Stanhope) conceived the observations of the hon. proprietor to be quite superfluous.

Mr. Weeding said that every question propounded in that court was left to the determination, not of an individual, but of the proprietors who happened to be present. (*Hear!*) Now, much as he respected the hon. Chairman, and greatly as he relied on that hon. gentleman's superior discretion, still he could not agree to this motion, which appeared to him to be part of a system by which frivolous questions were constantly brought before the court. (*Hear!*)

The Chairman.—"When I answered the question of the gallant colonel, I did so merely as an individual, to whom an appeal had been made. I then certainly stated that I should not oppose the motion. The proposition is, however, before the court; and it is not fair to say, because

because I have stated that I do not mean to oppose the production of those papers, that therefore others have no right to do so; it is entirely in the pleasure of the court, whether they will grant those papers or not. I merely stated in the outset, for the satisfaction of the gallant officer, that I did not mean to oppose his motion."

Col. *L. Stanhope*.—"My proposition is simply this, that the extent of the patronage of the East-India Company should be made known. The hon. Chairman agrees to the motion; and then, for what reason I cannot perceive, the hon. proprietor steps forward, and calls on the chairman not to grant the desired information."

Mr. *Gahagan* said the reason assigned by the hon. proprietor for his opposition to this motion was the most extraordinary he had ever heard. Mark what the hon. proprietor said: "I don't like to give you up those returns, (why?) because I cannot tell what use you mean to make of them." Now, what would be said in parliament, if, when papers were called for by the opposition, the minister were to say, "You must, before we grant those papers, tell us what you mean to do with them." (*Hear!*) He doubted not that, on inquiry, it would be found that the Company's patronage was most properly and honourably disposed of; and, were it for nothing else but to prove that fact, he should vote for the production of these returns.

Mr. *Weeding*.—"Nothing could be more misconceived or misinterpreted than my argument. What I said was, that when those returns were procured from the court of directors, no use whatever could be made of them. The act of parliament restricted the proprietors from any interference in these matters."

Sir *C. Forbes* said, that when papers were moved for in the House of Commons, it was generally necessary to lay some parliamentary ground for their production. But, notwithstanding this was the general rule, he was sorry to observe, that the House of Commons too often gave way to motions for the production and printing of papers (which, however interesting they might be to individuals, were not at all so to the community at large), and the consequence was that an enormous expense, amounting to £70,000 or £80,000 annually, were obliged to be defrayed by the public for printing alone. In his opinion, the Chairman ought to see what parliamentary grounds (if he might use the phrase) were advanced in support of this motion. He confessed that he could not see what object his gallant friend had in view in bringing forward this proposition. The hon. Chairman had stated, very candidly, that neither

he nor the Court of Directors had the smallest objection to the production of these returns. But, he would ask, was not this one of these cases to which he had just alluded, where a motion was made without any ground being adduced as a reason for introducing it? If his gallant friend wished that a different mode should be adopted with respect to the future distribution of patronage, if he desired that the court should consider this part of the Company's system, he (Sir *C. Forbes*) could understand such a proposition; and then it would be for the proprietors to say whether they thought that was, or was not, a sufficient ground for the motion. But, as the matter now stood, he knew not what use could be made of the returns moved for.

Capt. *Maxfield*.—"Conceiving that the papers had, in the first instance, been conceded, he had not deemed it necessary to say any thing on this subject. This was a matter of more magnitude than some gentlemen seemed to imagine. The returns, he understood, were to have been laid on the table; but now, it seemed, the court was called on to refuse them, although the executive body were ready to produce the papers. The papers, even if printed, would create very little expense. And it should not be forgotten, that papers were printed, some time since, at the expense of thousands of pounds, on which no motion was ultimately founded. Perhaps on that very subject a motion might be brought forward on a future day. He had no doubt that, if the papers now called for were produced, they would give rise to a motion in that court. It was said, outside of the court, "how ridiculous it is for you to make any motion there;" and those who spoke thus, when asked to assign a reason why individuals who had fact, argument, and incontrovertible reasoning on their side, should not appeal to the court, answered, "why, because you cannot succeed; there is always an immense majority against you." He, however, did not think this was a reason that ought to induce him to retreat. If he could not carry a point to-day, he might at some future period. Where sound argument appeared on one side, and large majorities on the other, the majorities went for little in the eyes of reflecting men; and by agitating questions frequently, even under these adverse circumstances, much good was ultimately done. Let them look to the opposition in the House of Commons. Although that body had not been able to carry any measure, yet had its exertions done much good. The hon. proprietor who rose voluntarily to oppose the present motion, said, "the patronage is distributed by act of parliament, you therefore cannot touch

touch it." Well, suppose it was so distributed, that did not prevent the interference of the proprietors. If the patronage system worked well for some, while the great body of the Company was thrown overboard, what was to prevent them from applying for an act of parliament to remedy the evil? But the hon. proprietor (Mr. Weeding) would not, it appeared, let gentlemen know any thing whatever of this business; he would not even let them look at the papers, to gain a little information on so important a point. However, so far as his (Capt. Maxfield's) vote went, he would endeavour to procure that information. He did not mean to say that the directors improperly disposed of their patronage; on the contrary, he knew instances (and he hoped they were very frequent) where the patronage had been disposed of in the most laudable manner. He, however, was perfectly aware of the bad effects which the system of patronage had, with reference to their distant provinces, over which the government had little or no control. In several instances that system had, comparatively speaking, converted whole districts into deserts. The hon. proprietor then proceeded to illustrate his argument by referring to the Hyderabad and Oude papers, to shew what mischief was produced by the overweening desire for patronage which appeared to engross the minds of their servants. He traced the embarrassments of the Nizam of Hyderabad, and of the Nawab of Oude, to their connexion with the Company's government. No sooner did that connexion take place with the Nizam, than a reform of his troops was set on foot, which had produced the worst consequences. But, where a different course was pursued, results of a most beneficial nature had followed. This was the case with the Guicowar's dominions, because no attempt was made there to reform, as it was called, the force of the sovereign.

Mr. *Gahagan* put it to the good sense of his gallant friend whether these proceedings in Oude, and in the territories of the Nizam, had any thing to do with the question before the court. (*Hear!*)

Capt. *Maxfield* said he was shewing the bad effects of a system of patronage, with respect to the two former states of Oude and Hyderabad, and the good effects of a different system in the Guicowar territories. He denied that he was out of order; it might be said that he was, but he defied any person to prove it. Gen. Walker was the resident at the court of Baroda, and he believed his intentions were to support the integrity of that state.

The *Chairman*.—"I consider the question before the court to be, whether the

Court of Directors will agree to lay before the proprietors a return of patronage of different descriptions. Should that paper be laid before the court, it may then form the foundation of those observations which the hon. proprietor is now making: but I think it quite out of order to enter into this sort of discussion at present." (*Hear!*)

Mr. *S. Dixon*.—"It appears to be the opinion of certain individuals, that we, at this side of the bar, are better able to send out fit and proper persons to serve in India, than the Court of Directors are. Now, as I am of a directly contrary way of thinking, I wish the patronage to be left just as it is."

Dr. *Gilchrist* rose to order.

Capt. *Maxfield* defended the course he was pursuing.

Mr. *S. Dixon*.—"What I said, I meant as a general observation."

The *Chairman*.—"I think both the hon. proprietors are out of order in entering on a subject not properly before us. I pronounce the first hon. proprietor to be out of order—and the second hon. proprietor, by following his steps, has been no less out of order."

Mr. *S. Dixon*.—"Some individuals can only go on in their own way—and I am one of those."

Capt. *Maxfield* said, if he had not, by the course which the proceedings had taken, been called on to produce this sort of evidence of the effects of patronage, he would not have touched upon it. They had been told, on the other side, that this was a mere motion for papers, and that, therefore, he had no right to adduce those facts to which he had been calling the attention of the court. Now he must be allowed to say, that the matters to which he was referring were very important, though not very palatable to some gentlemen.

The *Deputy Chairman*.—"If the motion had included that which the gallant officer is now calling in question—namely, the mode in which the Court of Directors dispose of their patronage—then I should say that he was perfectly in order. But the question here merely is, that a return of patronage, of different descriptions, shall be laid before the court; and, so far as I am concerned, I shall be very glad if the motion is carried. It is not, however, my intention, should the question be put, to hold up my hand one way or the other."

Capt. *Maxfield* continued.—He had been called on by one set of gentlemen, to assign some reason for this motion—and now, when he was doing so, he was repeatedly told that he was out of order. He wished to show that the system of patronage in India had produced very bad effects; and he believed that its results

sults were precisely the same in the two countries. He was by no means prepared to admit, that what was bad on the other side of the water, was good here. If he were not allowed at present to expose the deleterious effects of patronage, he had the pleasure to know that hereafter an opportunity would be afforded him for that purpose, when a court was specially called to consider this subject in detail. Therefore, putting off the discussion, or putting down for a day, could have no effect whatever in the end. An hon. proprietor (Mr. Weeding) seemed to entertain a strong idea that great evil would arise from the production of those papers—which he (Capt. Maxfield) believed might be procured with very little trouble, without coming to that court for them. He, however, conceived that the hon. proprietor's fears were totally groundless. The gallant officer was again proceeding to advert to Gen. Walker's conduct in the territory of the Guicowar, when

The *Chairman* rose, and declared that hon. proprietor was entirely out of order. He was introducing matter of the most irrelevant nature.

Capt. *Maxfield* proceeded to say, it had been admitted that part of the patronage consisted of the nomination to China voyagers. Now he should be glad to know whether that portion of patronage had reference to the appointment of the captain, or the selection of the ship? Did it enable the captain to appoint a particular ship? or was the captain selected, and was the ship then taken up as a matter of course?

The *Chairman*.—"The simple answer is, that the patronage is attached to the captain, and not to the ship."

Capt. *Maxfield* said, if he attempted to prove all the evils which arose from this arrangement, he would detain the court longer than he wished. On this subject he could, however, make out a very strong case.

The *Deputy Chairman*.—"If a captain should die or resign before the voyage is commenced, the voyage becomes vacant, and it is referred to the proper committee to consider whether any, and if any, what alteration should be made in the destination of the ship, in consequence of the appointment of a new commander. As to the gallant officer's saying that there are many fat things to give away, I can assure him that there are also many lean ones."

Col. *L. Stanhope* expressed his astonishment that the hon. proprietor (Mr. Weeding) should appear to be so little versed in history, as not at once to see strong grounds for the motion which was before the court. This very question of East India patronage, was that which turned

Asiatic Journ. Vol. XXIII. No. 137.

Mr. Fox out of power—a circumstance that had altered the course of events in Europe from that day to the present. When, too, they found this patronage described by such an authority as Mr. Dundas, as sufficient to corrupt both houses of parliament, did not that statement, of itself, call upon them to procure some account of it? Could any man be so noodle-headed as not to see, that it was desirable for every great body to know how its appointments were disposed of; and to be acquainted with the nature and extent of the power and patronage exercised by those who filled the executive situation? With respect to what the hon. proprietor said about the Act of Parliament, he had no doubt that it was very difficult to be understood, as most Acts of Parliament were; but, suppose the Act described the way in which this patronage was to be distributed, had not that court the power of making representations on the subject to the Court of Directors, to the President of the Board of Control, and to other authorities, for the purpose of having the system changed, if they found it to be very corrupt? Had gentlemen never seen the Red Book—and did they not know that all the patronage of government was there set forth? If such reasons as these did not satisfy the hon. proprietor that the information now called for ought to be given, then he should begin to think that the hon. proprietor had some personal interest in concealing it.

Dr. *Gilchrist* thought it a most extraordinary thing, when the Court of Directors appeared willing to grant this information, to find an hon. proprietor coming forward to oppose the motion. To refuse the papers was a most monstrous idea. It was almost as bad as the proceedings at Juggernaut, or the burning of widows. It was said, "There is no necessity for producing those papers, because the patronage is never given to any improper person." He denied this—for it was notoriously given to young men who knew nothing of the Hindoo language. The directors gave it to persons who had no claims on that Company—whose fathers had not toiled and bled in their service. He would contend, that until the directors sent out cadets who were perfectly fit for duty, when they arrived in India, they were disposing of their patronage improperly.

The motion was then put, and negatived without a division.

ATTENDANCE OF THE DIRECTORS.

Dr. *Gilchrist* then rose to make his promised motion relative to the attendance of the directors during the last year; and also, as to the attendance of the six gentlemen recommended to fill the vacancies occasioned by the going out, by rotation,

rotation, of that number of directors, during the year they were last in office. He observed that six gentlemen (or what was commonly called the House List) had been recommended by the Court of Directors. Now, if this were not a species of self-election, he really did not know any case to which that term would apply. It had been made a matter of praise to-day, that an hon. gentleman had remained in the direction for nearly fifty years. But if he got in, he would stay, if possible, for a century. (*Laughter.*) The salary of the directors, small as it was, might be considered in some degree as important; but, compared to the patronage they enjoyed, it was like a drop of water in the ocean. He thought that the attendance of the directors, and their attending properly, was a very great matter. Indeed, so important did it appear to him, that he meant to make the former attendance of the six gentlemen who were again recommended to the direction, one of the most prominent features of a circular letter which he meant to send round to the proprietors. He intended to make a stand for the direction himself. It might be given against him; but he would persevere to the end, whatever the consequences might be. The learned doctor then proceeded to argue, that if, from old age, infirmity, dotage, or from any other cause whatsoever, a director were unable to attend regularly to his duties, the proprietors ought immediately to look out for a man whose mental and bodily vigour was fully equal to the task. Much had been said about the labours of the directors. Now, they lost nothing but their time; and for that they were well paid. He wished to God that he was half so well rewarded for his labours. But it appeared, notwithstanding their labours, that they had a good deal of time to spare. He found one of them had leisure and strength to carry the whole *Globe* on his back, a second supported the *Palladium*, and *Atlas* himself was sustained by a third. Persons had accused him of taking up the time of that Court; but he thought such observations came with a very bad grace from individuals who, while they were paid by that Company, contrived to act as chairmen or directors to different joint-stock companies. He would not fatigue the court with reading the names of the various companies, from a book which he held in his hand, because he supposed that those whom he addressed were sufficiently aware of the facts to which he alluded. What he complained of was, that some of those gentlemen were constantly talking about the time of the Court being unnecessarily taken up; which was occasioned, he supposed, by their having so much to do elsewhere. As to their la-

bours, he considered them as trifling. Their clerks only wanted a little supervision, and the business would go on just as well without the directors as with them. He would now proceed to show, from the By-Laws, and from Mr. Auber's excellent book, what the privileges of the Court of Proprietors were. He felt it incumbent on him to take this course, because the other day they were treated as mere ciphers. There was, however, as he should show, a positive enactment on this subject.

He found in chap. vii. that it was laid down that nine proprietors had the power to demand that a court should be summoned for the discussion of any particular question: so then according to this, nine proprietors were more important than the directors were willing to imagine. They were very good "nine pins" until they were thrown down. The learned gentleman then proceeded to contend that the proprietors and directors were to be considered as one body, having a conjoint power. One of the by-laws stated, it is to be observed,

"That the quarterly courts are the only courts for general business; at which subjects not previously advertised may be introduced for discussion: such subjects must not involve questions in which a specific notice is prescribed by the by-laws, such as grants of money, the forgiving offences, &c."

He would contend that every proprietor, as a shareholder of the Company, was as much interested as any director within the bar. If any one who heard him had any doubt upon the subject, he would read an extract from the charter of the Company; that charter stated, amongst other things, what follows:

"And we do further by these presents, for us, our heirs, and successors, give and grant unto the said English Company, trading to the East-Indies, and their successors; and we do hereby ordain, will, and appoint, that it shall and may be lawful to and for all and every the members of the same Company hereby established, from time to time to assemble and meet together at any convenient place or places for the choice of their directors, and for making of by-laws, ordinances, rules, orders, or directions for the government of the said Company, or for any other affairs or business concerning the same; or that all the members of the same Company, or so many of them as shall be so assembled, shall be and be called a general court of the said Company and Corporation, which court shall assemble and meet at such times and in such manner as is directed."

This extract clearly proved the authority of the proprietors in all matters touching the interests of the Company. It shewed that the "pins" were not knocked down. But what further did their laws say of this power?—"A general court may be summoned on the demand of nine proprietors, and in default of the directors in summoning such court, the said nine proprietors may summon it, and may displace any director for mismanagement in his office." Was this power of the "nine pins" nothing? Or were they, after this declaration of their laws as to the authority they possessed,

possessed, to be declared mere ciphers? Every member of that court ought to unite in upholding their common authority, and by that union they might uphold the Company in Parliament, for it was very probable that some attempt would there be made to knock them down. He had said thus much of their power—now let the court hear what was said of the question of “patronage.” Their laws said, that

“Where any director or directors shall happen to die, or be removed, or his office shall otherwise become void before the expiration of the term for which he shall have been elected, the major part of the members of the said Company assembled in a general court, and being duly qualified as aforesaid, shall and may elect and choose any other member or members of the said Company, qualified as aforesaid, into the office of such director or directors that shall so die or be removed, or whose office shall become void, which person so to be chosen shall continue in the said office until the next usual time hereby appointed for election, and until others shall be duly chosen and sworn, unless he shall be removed as aforesaid.”

Thus the proprietors saw that they had more power than they were aware of—and thus, if they exercised that power freely, he might expect to be supported by every independent man amongst them. (*Laughter, and cries of “question!”*) He could assure hon. proprietors that he would not be put down. He would go on to the end of his remarks, for he just felt himself as much at his ease there as he should in his easy chair at home. He would now beg to call their attention to another point:—In chap. iii. sec. 3 of the By-laws, it was enacted

“That no by-laws shall be ordained, altered, repealed, or suspended, without the consent and approbation of two general courts, specially to be called for that purpose; of the first of which general courts, fourteen days’ public notice at the least shall be given.”

He was anxious to call the particular attention of the court to this, for he would not shrink from his duty, however unpleasant it might be to his own feelings, or those of others; and if he should be defeated there, why he could apply to Parliament; small as he was, he could petition at any rate. They had seen that no by-law could be altered without the authority of two general courts—he would now point out to them the penalty attached to a breach of any by-law. The next section to that he had already read was

“That if any director shall be guilty of a wilful breach of any of the by-laws of this corporation, to which any other special penalty is not annexed, and shall be so adjudged by a general court, he shall be liable to be removed from his office of director, and be incapable thereafter of holding any other office or employment under this company.”

One of the by-laws, to the breach of which he had just pointed out the penalty, was to this effect. In the 11th section of the 6th chapter it was ordained,

“That at the first court of directors after every annual election, a chairman and deputy chairman shall be chosen for the year by the ballot; and that each of them be allowed five hundred pounds

a year, and every other director three hundred pounds a year, for his attendance upon the business of this Company.”

Now he did not know whether the rumours which had gone abroad were true or false; they might be false, and he did not mean to say they were true, but such as he had heard the rumour he would give it. It was stated that the present Chairman had upon his coming into office, claimed and exercised the right of appointing his deputy, and that the present Deputy Chairman was so appointed, instead of being appointed by the ballot pursuant to the direction of the by-law. If this were the fact, both one and the other of those directors were guilty of a wilful breach of the by-law.

The *Chairman*.—“If the learned proprietor states that I claimed to appoint the Deputy Chairman, he states that which is not true.” (*Hear, hear! and some cries of “Order.”*)

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—“I did not give the rumour as my own; I spoke it only as one that was in circulation, but I did not say that it was correct.”

The *Chairman*.—“Wherever the statement came from, it is not true.” (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. *S. Dixon* submitted that the hon. proprietor was not justified in introducing idle rumours as matters of discussion in that court. (*Hear, hear!*)

The *Deputy Chairman* was unwilling to interrupt the discussion before the court, but he could not avoid saying a few words, as his name had been unnecessarily introduced into the debate. The appointment of the deputy chairman was solely in the court of directors, and not in the chairman, and he could assure the court there was no deviation from this course in his case. He was elected by the directors in the usual way, and not by the chair. (*Hear, hear!*) The learned proprietor had said that he felt himself as much at his ease in that court as if he were in his easy chair at home; but he was bound to consult the ease of others as well as of himself, and he (the Deputy Chairman) would appeal to the feelings of the court whether, in what the learned proprietor had yet said, he had advanced one step towards the question before them. (*Hear, hear!*)

Col. *Stanhope* said that, as one of those to whom the appeal had been made he must observe, that the hon. director should have made his appeal, not to the feelings, but to the reason of the court. (*Hear, hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* proceeded. He would again call the attention of the court to their by-laws, and particularly to that which spoke of obtaining votes for directors by indirect means. In section I, chapter 7th it was ordained

“That if any member of this Company shall, by menaces or promises, collusive transfer or transfers

of stock, by any fee, present, or remuneration, under the plea of defraying travelling expenses, or under any other plea or pretence whatsoever, directly or indirectly obtain, or endeavour to obtain any vote for the election of himself or any other to be a director, and be declared guilty thereof at a general court to be called for that purpose, such person shall be incapable thereafter of holding any office, the qualification for which is subject to the regulation of the general court, and if he be a director, he be further liable to be removed from his office."

Thus the court saw how much value their by-laws attached to the independent election of their executive body, and how anxiously it endeavoured to guard against any undue influence in such election. He saw in section vi. of the chapter on elections, that

"A list shall be published thirty days before the annual election of directors, containing the names of such proprietors qualified agreeable to law, as shall signify in writing to the secretary their desire of becoming candidates for the direction, thirty-two days before such annual election."

He saw in another part of the book of by-laws, that there must be thirty days' notice before such election; and, indeed, the question he had put at the last court had reference to this matter. He had asked whether, in the event of any of the six gentlemen who were candidates along with him, being called to "Abraham's bosom," he should not be in a situation to walk over the course, as any other person coming later could not have given the requisite notice of thirty days. He took his chance, for such an occurrence when he put his name in as a candidate. (*A laugh.*) He thought he had another chance, if the laws were administered fairly. By the 9th section of the 6th chapter, it was ordained

"That any proprietor who shall have been elected a director of this Company within two years after having held any maritime office in the service of the Company, shall be liable to be removed from his office of director; provided always, that this by-law shall not effect any person at present in the direction, and now holding an office under the crown, or preclude his being re-elected to be a director, or subject him to be liable to be removed from the said office."

In the ordinary acceptance of this law, it would have the effect of rendering a person taking an office under the crown, liable to be removed from the direction; unless indeed they made the words "at present" apply to every time at which such an event might happen. This was, he believed, the construction which the directors put upon the law. It reminded him of a story he had heard of an old wife, who, if she had lived a century or two back, would have stood a chance of being burnt for a witch. This old lady kept a shop for the sale of whiskey, and over the door were these words: "The best whiskey under the sun; threepence a gill to-day, and to-morrow for nothing."

The clowns in the neighbourhood came to her in great numbers, and paid for the whiskey, in the expectation of getting it the next day for nothing; but when they

then came, the old wife pointed up to her sign, and observed, "you must pay the threepence to-day, to-morrow has not come yet;" and with her it would never come; it would be always "to-day." In the same manner he believed it would always be "at present," in the interpretation which the directors would give to the law. Another by-law to which he wished to call the attention of the court, for the purpose of asking information it, was this. In section vii. of the 7th chapter, it was stated,

"That in all elections to be annually made of six directors, for four years, in pursuance of the act of Parliament, 13 Geo. III., cap. 63, each proprietor voting shall give in a list containing not more than six names of persons duly qualified to be directors; and if any list shall contain the names of more than six persons duly qualified, every such list shall be totally rejected."

Now what he wanted to know was, if a person should send in a list with a less number than six persons upon it, would that also be rejected.

The Chairman.—"No."

Dr. Gilchrist thanked the hon. Chairman for the information. He wished also to be informed whether the names of the six persons given in the present system of self-election were to be given in rotation? were they to be put in one list or not?

Mr. Weeding asked what had those questions to do with the motion before the court, which related only to the attendance of directors?

Dr. Gilchrist said he would shew they had to do with his motion, as he would connect them with it. He wished to know whether the whole were to be put in as one list, or could any lady or gentleman come forward, and let it be known whether she or he were putting in the house-list or otherwise?

Mr. Twining said there were six names on the list, and any proprietor might erase any name or names, and substitute those of any other persons whom they might prefer.

Dr. Gilchrist asked how this could be done without the knowledge of the directors, and then what became of the secrecy of the ballot?

A Proprietor observed, that any proprietor might take the list home with him, and make any alterations in it he pleased, where what he did could not be known.

Dr. Gilchrist went on. If they gave him patronage, he would get persons enough to vote for him; but, in the present state of the Company, he must protest against this mode of electing their members.

Mr. Pattison said the learned proprietor was mistaken if he imagined, that as a candidate, he had not a right to have a list. Undoubtedly he had a right to bring

bring a list of his own, and to put himself in that situation on it which no doubt he thought he ought to occupy, namely, at the head; but then, he must go to the expense of having it printed for himself, as it could not be expected that the Company would print one for him.

Dr. *Gilchrist* thanked the honourable director for this information, of which he was hitherto ignorant, and he would take the hon. gentleman's advice, except in placing his name at the head of the list. His name should be at the bottom, and he hoped that in this case, as in others, it would be seen that the first should be last, and the last should be first. He would now read for the court an extract from the *Oriental Herald*, a work he supposed they had heard of; but as he was impartial, he would have no objection to quote also from the *Asiatic Journal*. Here the learned gentleman read an extract from the *Oriental Herald* for April, 1826, on the subject of the "Election of Candidates." After noticing that part of the article which referred to some observations on the same subject in a former number, the learned proprietor read the following:

"It is known that the East-India Company is a body of professed traders, their title being 'The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.' On this pretended ground alone, that of carrying on a trade, by which it is notorious that they sustain a heavy annual loss, though they endeavour to make it appear that it could be carried on by no one else as advantageously as by themselves, they are privileged to hold a country as large as all Europe under their dominion; to usurp thrones, to destroy dynasties, to assess taxes, to make laws, and to appropriate revenues;—to engage in wars, and, in short, to rule by the most absolute and irresponsible despotism, the destinies of a hundred millions of subjects and tributary people, whose kingdoms, whose honours, whose wealth, and whose enjoyments they have despoiled as conquerors, giving them nothing but a most systematic and grinding system of exaction, and very lofty professions of an interest in their temporal and eternal welfare, in return. In a country so ruled, without a free public or a free press to expose abuses there, and at such a distance from all check and control here, there must doubtless be a number of good things to enjoy, and a number of favours to dispense. In the course of a long service in such a country, whether in a civil or military capacity, abundant experience must be had of the way in which these good things and these favours may be made to turn to account at home, and on the return of the fortunate individual who has outlived the liver, the cholera, and all the other enemies of an Indian residence, he naturally enough looks around him for the means of getting into the East-India direction, for the purpose of dispensing to his relatives, friends, and dependants, the blessings in which he himself has so largely participated before them; or if he has but few of these, of making his patronage a medium of exchange, for such advantages as he may be desirous of enjoying for himself. Such, for instance, as a seat in parliament, a baronetcy, or an elevation to the peerage, for all of these are within the reach of wealth and devotion to the higher powers combined, and none are beneath an India Director's continual care and ambition."

A *Proprietor* here observed, that the learned doctor had quite forgot his motion. What he was then reading had nothing to do with it.

Dr. *Gilchrist* said he was too old to require the hon. proprietor's suggestion

or advice. He would go on his own way.

Mr. *S. Dixon* said it was but fair to let the learned gentleman proceed. It should be recollected that he was a candidate for the direction, and he ought to be allowed an opportunity of showing to the court how well qualified he was for that office. (*A laugh.*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* thanked the worthy proprietor for his hint, and he would take advantage of it, by showing that he was fit for the office to which he aspired. He then went on with the extract.

"If the real motives which led men to seek this honour were frankly and openly avowed, it would in no degree lessen their chance of success, while it would be far more honourable to their permanent reputation, than the affection of motives which are scarcely believed when announced, and are soon entirely discredited, by the subsequent conduct of the individual being found to be completely at variance with his pledges and professions. Neither the candidates who offer themselves, nor the voters by whose support they succeed, care, in general, one straw about the good of the people of India, although this is so constantly put forth as the chief motive of both, that it is now discredited, even in the few cases in which it may be consistent with truth. The candidate enters the field, perhaps, three or four years before he can obtain his seat. He undergoes a pilgrimage through every street in London, more wearying and humiliating than a pilgrimage to Jerusalem or Mecca. He expends at least a thousand pounds on every occasion of coming to the ballot; and he is perhaps moderately successful, if he comes into the direction after three years of penance and three thousand pounds of expense; to say nothing of the risk of all this ending in entire failure."

Dr. *G.* continued.—Now, he would not spend a single shilling. He would make no canvas, but would put himself entirely on the support of the independent proprietors. He then went on to read another extract to show, that this anxiety to get into power, arose solely on the part of the candidate, from a wish to dispense the patronage, and on the part of the proprietors, by whose votes they were nominated, the wish was to share it.

"For this [the extract continued] each of them will endure fatigue, will undergo long journeys, will expend their money liberally, and will make the loudest vauntings of their independence; but let the Directors be divested of their salaries (paltry as they are admitted to be), and of all the patronage and power of dispensing places, in lieu of fortunes, on those whose advancement they desire, or exchanging them for other considerations with strangers, and we should soon observe but few candidates in the field, and equally few voters preferring India stock to any other description of landed property, to which no peculiar expectations, beyond a fixed dividend, were attached."

On this part of the subject (Dr. *Gilchrist* continued) he was anxious to call the attention of the court to the recent instance in which a writership had been given as a prize to be contended for in one of our public schools. If such an example were followed in many other instances, it would tend much to advance the interests of the Company, as it would stimulate hundreds to qualify themselves in those acquirements necessary to render them efficient servants of the Company. Too many persons in the Company's service had, he regretted, gone out without proper

proper instruction, and without any knowledge whatever of the native languages. On this subject the hon. Chairman had on a former occasion read a letter from Sir T. Munro, in which that officer did not appear to concur in the necessity of giving to cadets a proper instruction in the native language. Now he would read six letters from the same excellent authority, to show that Sir T. Munro was strongly in favour of giving to cadets a complete education before they left this country. Dr. G. was about to read the letters, when

Mr. *Trant* rose to order. If the learned proprietor proceeded in the course he was now pursuing, he (Mr. *Trant*) would feel it his duty to move that the court do adjourn, though he would otherwise rather that the question were met with a direct negative. It was really too much, that the time of the court should be taken up with matters which had nothing whatever to do with the motion before it. Surely it would not be in order to read letters which had no bearing whatever on the subject under consideration.

The *Chairman* decided that the reading of those letters would be irregular.

Dr. *Gilchrist* said then he would give up the letters.

He was then proceeding to read another extract from (we believe) the *Oriental Herald*, when

Mr. *S. Dixon* said, that if the learned proprietor did not come immediately to the motion, he would move the question of adjournment.

Dr. *Gilchrist* said he would come now to another letter, to the reading of which he thought there could be no objection. It was a letter addressed to a proprietor, and soliciting his vote for a gentleman who was a candidate for the direction. He omitted the name of the candidate in whose behalf it was written. The letter was written by the present Chairman (at that period their Deputy Chairman), was dated "India House, February, 1826," and signed "G. A. Robinson." It was to this effect:—

"Permit me to solicit your vote and interest for Mr. —, who is candidate for a seat in the East-India Direction, and who means to come forward to the ballot at the election, for supplying the vacancy caused by the retirement of your late worthy director Mr. Hudleston. Having been more than thirty years in the civil service of the Hon. Company at Bengal, and having held the station of a member of the Supreme Council, Mr. — possesses an extensive knowledge of their affairs. On these public grounds, I trust that you will think him deserving of your support, and I beg to assure you that in affording it you will confer a great obligation on myself.

(Signed) "G. A. ROBINSON."

Now this, he contended, was an interference in an election, or if it were not he could not tell what was. He had also in his possession a letter written by the hon. Chairman, soliciting the vote of a proprietor for another individual. This

he thought was very improper interference.

Major *Carnac* rose to order.—He objected to any proprietor making his speech a vehicle for personalities. Here was an attack upon their Chairman, who he would maintain deserved the confidence and respect of every member of that court as much as any individual who had ever held that important office. (*Hear, hear!*) He hoped the learned proprietor would not persist in that course, and that the court would see the necessity of preserving a due respect for their executive body. (*Hear, hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* contended that he was quite in order in calling the attention of the court to this letter. His object was to shew from the letter of one of their own body that a by-law had been violated, and that the director by whom this breach of the laws had been committed had forfeited his seat in the direction, if this could be proved sufficiently to the Court of Proprietors.

Dr. *Gilchrist* was about to resume, when

Mr. *Trant* moved that the court do adjourn, *sine die*.

Col. *Stanhope* hoped the hon. proprietor would not press such a motion while such a question was before the court. The subject to which the learned gentleman had just called their attention was one intimately connected with their best interests, and though he would admit that the learned Doctor wandered occasionally from the main question, yet it was one of too much importance to be got rid of by a question of adjournment.

Mr. *Trant* did not mean to deny the right of any proprietor to introduce any matter which he might deem of importance to the notice of the court, but the learned gentleman had already occupied the attention of the court for nearly two hours and had not yet come to the subject of his motion. (*Hear, hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* said it would appear that the hon. proprietor had never studied physic. He would not have him administer his medicine in a bolus all at once, he must first prepare the patient for it.

Mr. *Twining*.—"That might be a proper course, but the learned gentleman should not exhaust his patient too much before he administered the dose, which he believed was the case in the present instance." (*A laugh.*)

Mr. *Pattison* begged to put it to the great orientalist, whether in common sense he could for a moment suppose the letter he had alluded to could form the ground of an accusation against the hon. Chairman, whom they all had so much reason to respect? Had the letter contained any menace, or any promise

promise of reward, the case would be different: but the fact was simply that the hon. Chairman, who he regretted to state was going out by rotation at the next election, had recommended a gentleman whom he had known in the service for thirty years, and had recommended him on public grounds only. In doing this he had done only what was his right, as it was that of every member of that court, and it was really quite absurd to imagine that he had by that means violated a by-law, which clearly had reference only to the use of improper influence.— (*Hear, hear!*) If the learned gentleman thought he was proving his fitness for the office of director by the course he was now pursuing, he would perhaps find himself somewhat mistaken, and that the court entertained somewhat different notions of the duties and qualifications of a director from those which he possessed. That he (Dr. Gilchrist) was a great orientalist, he was free to acknowledge: but that he was qualified for the common business of an English court, he with all due respect for the learned gentleman must take leave to deny (*a laugh!*), and for this plain reason, that he believed him utterly unfit for such an office.— (*Laughter.*)

Col. Stanhope thought the hon director was out of order in such remarks.

Mr. Pattison said he had a right to make the remarks; they were called for by the charge on his hon. colleague, who was accused of the violation of a by-law.

Colonel Stanhope said if the learned proprietor was out of order, the hon. director had no right to make a speech on the same subject.

Mr. Pattison considered the learned gentleman out of order in the course he was pursuing.

Col. Stanhope replied, that that was no excuse for following his example.

Dr. Gilchrist said he could bear the laugh which the worthy director had raised against him, and could join in it, without being at all driven from his object. He would still be able to satisfy the court that the letter was a violation of the by-law, and he would read a part of that law.

The Chairman begged the learned gentleman would have the candour to read the whole of the by-law.

Dr. Gilchrist then read the law (cap. i. sec. 7):

"It is ordained that if any member of this Company shall by menaces or promises, collusive transfer or transfers of stock, by any fee, present, reward, or remuneration under the plea of defraying travelling expenses, or any other plea or pretence whatsoever, directly or indirectly obtain, or endeavour to obtain any vote for the election of himself or any other to be a director, and be declared guilty thereof at a general court to be called for that purpose, such person shall be incapable thereafter of holding any office, the qualification for which is subject to the regulation of the general court, and, if he be a director, he be further liable to be removed from his office."

The Deputy Chairman said, the learned gentleman was a candidate for the direction, and seemed anxious to make room for himself by bringing a charge which, in the view which the learned proprietor took of it, went to involve the whole of the twenty-four directors, for they all made it a practice to solicit the votes of the proprietors in favour of gentlemen whom they might consider to be eminently qualified to act in the direction. According to the doctrine of the learned gentleman the whole twenty-four directors had forfeited their seats: but that was a most erroneous construction of the law, for the directors had as much right as any other proprietors to interest themselves in support of those whom they knew to be fully qualified for the office of director.

Dr. Gilchrist said the director who spoke last was proving his (Dr. G.'s) case, for if all the others were as wrong as the Chairman, they ought all to go out together. He would maintain that this was a fair construction of the by-law, and he added that if defeated in his object in that court, he would bring the case before Parliament.

Mr. Pattison thought there could be no doubt whatever as to the meaning of the by-law if taken as a whole. He here read the law, and contended that the words "directly or indirectly" referred to the first part of the sentence, "by menaces or promises," &c. It was clear that the meaning of the law was, that no person should directly or indirectly obtain, or seek to obtain a vote by improper means; but this could never be meant to extend to the openly soliciting the support of proprietors, in behalf of those who were deemed fit to occupy a place in the direction.

Mr. Twining said, that as a member of the committee of by-laws, he had looked into the book and read the law in question, but he did not for an instant believe that there was any thing in its letter or spirit which could be brought to bear on the letter to which the learned proprietor alluded. If, however, any member of that court should entertain any doubt as to the construction of the law, the committee would give the matter the most serious consideration.

Dr. Gilchrist said, this shewed there was a doubt as to the legality of the practice to which he had referred.

Mr. Twining hoped he should not be misunderstood; what he had said was, that if a doubt existed in the mind of the learned gentleman, or any other proprietor as to the meaning of the law, it would, on a letter being addressed to the committee, be taken into their most attentive consideration; but he himself had no doubt whatever on the subject.

Dr. Gilchrist said, he would now submit his motion. He then handed in a motion,

motion, but it appeared not to be that of which he had given notice.

The *Chairman*.—"This course is still more extraordinary than the rest of the worthy proprietors proceedings; he departs from the notice he has given, and now puts another motion in its place.

Col. *Stanhope* rose to second the motion of which the learned proprietor had given notice.

The *Chairman*.—"He has not yet made it."

Dr. *Gilchrist* said he was in error in putting one motion for another. That which he had handed in to the chair was intended as a notice for another day. He now handed in the motion of which he had given notice.

It was read from the chair.

Mr. *Weeding* said that this was another step in the climax of folly.

Dr. *Gilchrist* rose to order. Such language was quite irregular. He was no more a fool than the proprietor who applied that appellation to him,

Mr. *Weeding* assured the hon. proprietor that he did not address the observation to himself personally, but to his motion, and to the grounds and reasons which were assigned for introducing and supporting it. While the hon. proprietor thought fit to bring topics into that court for public discussion, and they appeared to him (Mr. *Weeding*) to be irrational, he should not hesitate to designate them as such. The present motion was of the most frivolous kind, and was at all events an interference with the office of the Committee of By-Laws, which was composed of gentlemen chosen yearly from among the members of the general court, whose province it was to inquire into the duties of the Company's servants as they were performed in that house, and to see that the regulations of the Company were duly observed. If gentlemen, however, who introduced questions, were so wanton in their independence as to say "though you laugh at me, I will persevere, *populus me sibilat, at mihi plaudo*;" if this were the nature of the freedom they were determined to indulge in, one of two measures only remained to him and those who, like him, valued the reputation and the usefulness of that court, either to retire, and leave them to talk to empty benches, or to wait with patience—a hard task he admitted, but the least evil of the two—in order to prevent the mischief which their motions might be calculated to produce. (*Hear, hear!*)

Sir C. *Forbes* said that if the learned proprietor (Dr. *Gilchrist*) was correct in his application of the by-law, he thought it should apply to proprietors as well as directors. He would say one word as to an old custom in the Company, which he thought

would be much "more honoured in the breach than the observance." He meant that of the letter by the directors, recommending the election of six directors to supply the place of those who were to go out by rotation. He did not say that the use made of this was not, in most cases, fair, but he submitted that it was unnecessary. The merits of the ex-directors were well known to the proprietors; and he believed that, in general, those who had been found efficient in the discharge of the trust reposed in them, would be re-elected without any recommendation from the directors in office. But it was hardly fair to step in with such recommendation, as was sometimes the case, in favour of those who, from age or from their former mode of acting in the direction, would not be re-elected. He should therefore wish to see the practice of the "House List," as it was called, discontinued. He did not say that, in general, there was any inconvenience from it: but it was for the most part only so much waste paper, and it was therefore better the practice should be altogether abolished.

The *Deputy Chairman* said that the directors gave their recommendation, not as the Court of Directors, but as so many proprietors of East-India stock. Such recommendations were daily given by other proprietors, and he did not see why the directors should not be allowed the privilege, in common with all other members of the Company.

Sir C. *Forbes* observed that there was a little difference between the directors who acted as a body, and any other set of proprietors who might recommend any individual as a director. He did not, however, mean to deny the right of the directors, to recommend as well as other individuals: he merely threw it out as a suggestion whether it might not be better for the Company to discontinue (an old, he would admit, but) a very useless custom.

Capt. *Maxfield* thought that in the present discussion the court was wandering from the subject before them. He was sorry to hear such words in the course of debate in that court as "second step in the climax of folly," applied to any member. No proprietor ought to be put down by such abuse, and it could not be too strongly condemned. On the subject of the recommendation to seats among their body given by the Court of Directors, he entirely concurred with those who condemned it. He fully admitted the existence of the right, but he denied the prudence of its exercise on such occasions.

Col. *Stanhope* denied the existence of the right altogether. It was, he thought, contrary to reason and justice, and contrary to the by-laws of the Company; and

and nothing could remove from his mind the impression that the custom was extremely improper, and wholly unworthy of the Court of Directors.

After a few words from Dr. Gilchrist,

The question was put on his motion, which was negatived by a great majority, there being only *two* hands held up in its support.

He then gave notice that he would bring forward, on the next general court, another motion on the subject of the directors, and mode of election.

SALE OF WRITERSHIPS, CADETSHIPS, &c.—INDIAN DEBT.

Col. Stanhope gave notice that at the next general court he would submit the following motion.

"That the proprietors of East-India stock view with alarm the extent of their debt, and the increased and increasing patronage which place more than a half million's-worth of annual appointments at the disposal of their directors.

"That Mr. Dundas, a celebrated president of

the Board of Control, declared that the patronage of British India was of itself sufficient, if transferred to the King's government, to corrupt both houses of parliament, and to render the power of an ambitious minister superior to that of the crown.

"That though the dread of this extensive system of corruption was sufficient to upset Mr. Fox's India bill and his administration, and to change perhaps the course of events in Europe, still the proprietors observe, that a vast portion of this patronage is actually vested in the hands of their directors.

"That this Court cannot expect to escape untainted from that influence which was considered by the King and Peers of England as sufficient to destroy the constitution; and that with a view to avoid this evil they propose,—

"That all writerships, cadetships, surgeons, and other appointments should be openly sold to properly educated and qualified persons, and that the amount of such purchase-money be applied to a sinking-fund, for the purpose of gradually liquidating the existing India debt, which must otherwise eventually be added to the debt of the nation."

The Court then adjourned.

SHIPPING, BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, &c.

INDIA SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

March 29. *North Briton*, Richmond, from Bengal 5th Oct.; at Liverpool.—30. *Moro Castle*, Smith, from Bombay 25th Oct.; at Liverpool.—also *Celia*, Sherwood, from Batavia; at Deal.—April 1. *Valiant*, Bragg, from the Mauritius 19th Dec.; at Gravesend.—2. *Hooghley*, Reeves, from Bengal 2d Nov.; at Ceylon 10th Dec.; off Portsmouth.—5. *Nereus*, Clements, from N.S. Wales; at Liverpool.—7. *H.M.S. Stoney*, Thornton, from Ceylon 1st Dec.; at Portsmouth.—8. *General Harris*, Stanton, and *Canning*, Broughton, both from China 20th Dec.; at Gravesend.—also *Calcutta*, Moulin, from Bengal 26th Dec.; at Cowes (for Stockholm).—9. *Harriet*, Guthrie, from Bengal 30th Nov.; and *Recovery*, Chapman, from Bombay 21st Nov.; both at Gravesend.—also *Earl St. Vincent*, Middleton, from the Mauritius; off Dartmouth.—10. *Sir William Wallace*, Brown, from the Mauritius; off Plymouth.—11. *Caroline*, Kildson, from Bengal 5th Nov.; at Portsmouth.—12. *Dorothy*, Garnock, from Bombay 1st Dec., and *Corsair*, Robinson, from N.S. Wales 5th Dec.; both at Liverpool.—14. *Providence*, Wauchope, from Bombay 1st Dec.; at Gravesend.—16. *Hogue*, Miller, from Bombay and Tellicherry, and *Atlanta*, Leitch, from V.D. Land; both at Gravesend.—26. *Norval*, Conbro, from Bengal 8th Dec.; at Gravesend.

Departures.

March 31. *Protector*, Waugh, for Madras and Bengal; from Portsmouth.—April 3. *Princess Charlotte*, Godby, for V.D. Land and N.S. Wales (with convicts); from Deal.—4. *Rifeman*, Hawkins, for the Mauritius; from Liverpool.—5. *Mary*, Beachcroft, for Bombay; *Resource*, Penn, for Madras and Bengal; *Governor Ready*, Young, for N.S. Wales (with convicts); and *Lang*, Lusk, for V.D. Land and N.S. Wales; all from Portsmouth.—also *Lion*, Kenn, for V.D. Land and N.S. Wales; from Deal.—also *Esther*, Robinson, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—7. *Palambam*, Nash, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—8. *Enterprise*, Dillon, and *Charles Kerr*, Brodie, both for Bombay; from Deal.—also *Crown*, Pinder, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—9. *Coprey*, M Gill, for Bengal, and *Sarah*, Maders, for Bombay; both from Liverpool.—11. *Darius*, Blair, for the Mauritius; from Deal.—also *Claremont*, Honner, for

Bombay; from Greenock.—also *Elizabeth*, Atherden, for N.S. Wales; from Liverpool.—12. *John Biggar*, Kent, for Bombay; *George*, Fulcher, for the Cape, Ceylon, and Bengal; and *Princess Victoria*, Mathews, for Batavia and Singapore; all from Deal.—13. *Roxburgh Castle*, Denney, for Madras and Bengal; from Portsmouth.—15. *Breeze-bornebury*, Fewson, for China; from Deal.—16. *Lord Hungerford*, Heathorn, *Kellie Castle*, Ladd, *Alfred*, Pearson, and *Burrows*, Hutchinson, all for China; from Deal.—also *Persian*, Plunkett, for V.D. Land and N.S. Wales (with convicts); from Deal.—17. *Manlius*, Jackson, for N.S. Wales (with convicts); from Deal.—18. *Marquis of Hastings*, Drake, for N.S. Wales (with convicts); from Portsmouth.

PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

Per Recovery, from Bombay: Lady Lionel Smith; Miss Pottinger; Miss F. Pottinger; Capt. Gillau; Misses Forlonger, Barton, and Taylor; Colonel Turner; Colonel Jackson, H.M.'s 26th regt.; Capt. Sandwith and Sparrow; Lieut. Cooper, Queen's Royals; Lieut. Gambieton, 4th Lt. Dr.; Mr. Rickards; Masters Bell and Westley; 3 servants.

Per Nereus, from V. D. Land: Mr. J. H. Spain; Mr. W. Walkinshaw; Dr. Gray, surg. R.N.

Per Hooghley, from Ceylon and Madras: Capt. Simmons, Nat. Inf.; Mrs. Simmons and child; Capt. Storey, Madras N.I.; Mrs. Storey and child; Capt. Chichester, H.M.'s 59th regt.; two children of ditto; Lieut. Bolton, Bengal N.I.; Mrs. Waters, widow of Qu. Mast. Waters, 31st regt.; Assist. Surg. Crawford, Ceylon Staff; Master Rose, from Ceylon; one invalid.

Per Canning, from China: Jas. Bannerman, Esq.; 12 discharged soldiers from St. Helena.

Per Calcutta, from Bengal: Mr. P. Begbie, merchant.

Per Harriet, from Bengal: Major Backhouse, H.M.'s 47th regt.; Mrs. Backhouse; Capt. Carter, country service; 2 servants.

Per Boyne, from Bombay: Major Thompson, Major Rogers, and Lieut. Holyoake, H.M.'s 6th regt.

Per Pero, from St. Helena: H. Heathorn, Esq.; Mr. Jas. Metcalfe; Master Metcalfe.

Per *Atalanta*, from V.D. Land: R. Martin, Esq., Mr. R. Stodhart; Mr. W. Keating.

PASSENGERS TO INDIA.

Per *Protector*, for Madras and Bengal: Lieut. Whiteford and lady; Mr. Raikes; Miss Welch; Mrs. and Miss Smith; Mr. Gallen; Mrs. Price; Mrs. Bell and daughter; Messrs. Erskine, Davis, Jeffries, Best, Walker, Brind, Meyer, Turner, Frederick, Garrow, Brathwaite, Barlow, Welford, and Phillipson.

Per *Rosburgh Castle*, for Madras and Bengal: Col. Noble; Miss Noble; Mr. and Mrs. Reeves, missionaries, and children; Mr. and Miss Ritchie; Lieut. Everest; Capt. and Mrs. Pearce; Mr. Woodward; Mr. C. Hunter, merchant; Mrs. Hunter; Mr. and Mrs. Dyer; Mr. Woodburn; Dr. Woodburn; Miss Newell; Lieut. Horne; Mr. D. Smith; Mr. and Mrs. Crisp; Mr. Shaw; Master Fleming; Lieut. Wootton; Lieut. Dyke; Mrs. O'Brien and family; Mr. Jas. Forsyth, writer; Mr. Stapleton and lady; Rev. Mr. Jennings and lady; Mr. Harrington, cadet; Mr. M'Lachlan; Miss Hutmore.

Per *Charles Kerr*, for Bombay: Mrs. Hamilton and family; Mr. Stewart and Mr. Pelly, cadets; Mrs. Marriot and family; Mr. Roberts; Mrs. Gray and family; Mr. and Mrs. Freeman, for the Isle of France; Mrs. Canham, for ditto; Mr. John Sinclair, cadet.

Per *Medway*, for N.S. Wales: Maj. Gray; Mrs. Gray and family; Mr. Legg and four Misses Legg; Mr. Conolly; Mr. and Mrs. Levy and family; Mr. Archer; Mr. Liscombe; Mr. Stacey; Mr. Wood.

Per *Bolton*, for Bombay: Mrs. Hamilton; Mrs. Paget; Mrs. Ramsay; Misses Hamilton, Phillips, Paget, Grant, Davies, and Maxwell; Major Moor, Bombay army; Lieut. Ramsey, do.; Dr. Thos. Stewart; Mr. Bell, C.S.; Messrs. Ramsey, Green, Pitcher, Westbrook, Hazlewood, Boyé, Turner, and Dent.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

March 20. At Edinburgh, the lady of Henry Harvey, Esq., of St. Audrie's, Somersetshire, of a daughter.

28. At Minto House, Roxburghshire, the Countess of Minto, of a daughter.

April 3. The lady of Capt. Andrew N. Riddell, 2d or Grenadier Regt. Bombay N.I., of a son.

3. At Cleashy, Yorkshire, the lady of Capt. Wray, late of the Bengal army, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

March 26. At Bright Church, P. O'Hanlon, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Louise Alexander, youngest daughter of E. S.

Ruthven, Esq., of Oakley Park, county of Down, Ireland.

27. At Ipswich, Capt. Chas. Stewart, of the H.C.'s ship *Lord Lowther*, to Harriet, eldest daughter of A. H. Stewart, Esq., of Stoke Park.

— At Preston, P. Dick, Esq., M.D., of Clifton, son of Gen. George Dick, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Jane, widow of the late T. Monkhouse, Esq., and daughter of S. Horrocks, Esq., of Lark-hill, Preston.

31. In South Audley Street, E. A. Hill, Esq., to Lady Georgiana Keppel, daughter of the Earl of Albemarle.

April 12. At Edinburgh, R. Davidson, Esq., late in the naval service of the Hon. E. I. Company, to Helena, eldest daughter of Wm. Smith, Esq., solicitor, Gayfield Square.

17. At Islington Church, Capt. H. Delafosse, of the Bengal artillery, to Miss Shield of Horsey, Hightgate.

— At Leamington Priors, J. Alldrit, Esq., captain in the Madras artillery, to Jemima, only child of Capt. Northey, R.N.

21. At Christ Church, Mr. H. Jones, of Calcutta, to Miss Eliza Harris, of Walworth.

Lately, At Southampton, R. Woodward, Esq., of the Bengal Civil Service, to Lucy, eldest daughter of Maj. Gen. Gubbins.

— At Clifton Church, A. G. Kerr, Esq., youngest son of the late Lieut. Gen. J. Kerr, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Frances, youngest daughter of the late Thos. Freeman, Esq., Hon. Company's service.

DEATHS.

March 16. At Brompton, Mrs. Anne Hope, widow of the late Thos. Bailie, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

25. At the Parsonage, Newton St. Petrock, Devon, Mrs. Fowlkes, of Dawlish, widow of the late J. D. Fowlkes, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

27. At Edinburgh, Alex. Kennedy, Esq., M.D., formerly of the Madras medical service.

31. At Essich, near Inverness, Capt. Jas. Macdonnell, late of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

April 4. In Allsop's Buildings, Marylebone, Frances, widow of the late Robert Hughes, Esq., formerly of the Madras civil service.

— At Clifton, Charles William Henry, youngest son of the late Chas. Ranken, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

— At Woolwich, Lieut. Gen. R. Douglas, Senior Colonel Commandant of the Royal Regt. of Artillery, and Director General of the Field Train, in his 83d year.

19. At Clifton, aged three years, Tredway, only son of the late Tredway Clarke, Esq., of the Bengal civil establishment, and grandson of Lieut. Gen. Clarke, of Upper Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square.

Lately, At Moscow, the Georgian Princess, Dariza. She was the daughter of Prince Solomon, celebrated in the history of Georgia, to whom his subjects gave the name of the Great.

GOODS DECLARED FOR SALE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

For Sale 8 May—Prompt 10 August.

Company's.—Saltpetre.

Licensed.—Saltpetre—Pepper—White Pepper—Mace—Cloves—Nutmegs—Cinnamon—Arrow Root—Sago—Cassia Lignea—Cassia Buds.

For Sale 10 May—Prompt 10 August.

Licensed.—Gum Ammoniac—Gum Animi—Gum Benjamin—Gum Myrrh—Dragon's Blood—Camphor—Rhubarb—Aloes—Shellac—Orpiment—Terra Japonica—Columbo Root—Vermillion—Beef-Wax—Castor Oil—Cassia Oil.

For Sale 11 May—Prompt 10 August.

Licensed.—Gum Arabic—Gum Senega—Lac Dye

—Galls—Cochineal—Safflower—Turmeric—Munjeet—Sapan Wood.

For Sale 15 May—Prompt 10 August.

Licensed and Private Trade.—Elephants' Teeth—Tortoiseshell—Horns—Horn Tips—Rhinceros' Horns—Stag Horns—Hides—Seed Coral—Feathers—Grey Commercially Feathers—Paper—Ebony Wood—Black and White Bamboos—Cane Floor Mats—Mats—Soy—Mangoes—Tin—Ore of Antimony—Hemp—Jute Hemp.

For Sale 4 June—Prompt 31 August.

Tea.—Bohea, 850,000 lb.; Congou, Campol, Pekoe, and Souchong, 5,330,000 lb.; Twankay and Hyson—

Hyson-Skin, 1,300,000 lb.; Hyson, 200,000 lb.—
Total, including Private-Trade, 7,700,000 lb.

For Sale 12 June—Prompt 7 September.

Company's.—Bengal, Coast, and Surat Piece Goods.—Damaged Bengal and Coast Piece Goods.

Private-Trade.—Piece Good—Nankeens—Blue Sallampores—Bandannoes—China Silk Piece Goods—Wrought Silks.

For Sale 18 June—Prompt 5 October.

Company's.—Bengal Raw Silk.

CARGOES of EAST-INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS lately arrived.

CARGOES of the General Harrie and Canning, from China.

Company's.—Tea.

Private-Trade and Privilege.—Tea—Raw Silk—Silks—Paper—Rhubarb—Seed Coral—Fish Counters—Black Bamboos—Table Mats—Floor Mats—Wine.

LIST of SHIPS trading to INDIA and Eastward of the CAPE of GOOD HOPE.

Destination.	Appointed to sail.	Ship's Name.	Tonnage.	Owners or Consignees.	Captains.	Where loading.	Reference for Freight or Passage.
Madras	1827.	Security	300	Johnston and Meburn	Andrew Ross	W. I. Docks	Edm. Read, Riche's-court, Lime-str.
	May	Venitia	370	Johnston and Meburn	William Walmistey	W. I. Docks	W. Abercrombie, Birchin-lane.
	1	Kingston	541	William A. Bowen	W. A. Bowen	E. I. Docks	Cockrell, Trail, & Co., & J. S. Brinley.
	5	Lady Mac Naughten	340	James Allen and Co.	James Allen	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Graham, Mark-lane.
	7	Henry Porcher	467	George Lyall	William Faith	W. I. Docks	John Groves and Co., Billiter-sq.
	14	Eliza	682	David Sutton	Robert Jeffery	W. I. Docks	John Groves and Robert Thornhill.
	17	Cornepicus	354	William Tindell	David Sutton	E. I. Docks	Barber, Neate, & Co., Clement's-lane.
	20	Clyde	564	Fairlie, Bonham, and Co.	James Boland	City Canal	John Lyney, jun. Birchin-lane.
	31	Prince Regent	322	Buckles and Co.	Daniel N. Munro	E. I. Docks	R. Strachan, Riche's-court, Lime-st.
	June	York	480	Samuel Moates	W. B. Lamb	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co. Mark-lane.
Bengal	May	Mary Ann	320	John Pirie and Co.	Alexander Agnew	City Canal	J. Pirie & Co., Freeman's-ct., Cornhill.
	15	Diadem	587	Fraser, Living, and Co.	James Bourant	E. I. Docks	John S. Brinley, Birchin-lane.
	20	George Canning	370	George Nickle	William Kent	W. I. Docks	Barber & Co., and W. Redhead, jun.
	31	Circassian	425	Huddart and Co.	H. Christopherson	W. I. Docks	J. Pirie and Co., and J. S. Brinley.
	June	Catherine	404	E. and A. Rule	G. R. Donthwaite	City Canal	E. and A. Rule, Lime-street.
	10	Mountaineer	345	John Gray	John Purdie	W. I. Docks	John Meison, Lime-street.
	15	Lady Nugent	515	John Campbell	Row. B. Cotgrave	City Canal	W. Redhead, jun., or Barber and Co.
	20	Kath. Steu. Forbes	457	Aaron Chapman	Ingram Chapman	W. I. Docks	John Chapman and Co.
	25	Matina	350	James Murray	James Murray	Lon. Docks	John S. Brinley, Birchin-lane.
	June	Recovery	493	John Chapman and Co.	Henry C. Chapman	W. I. Docks	John Chapman and Co.
Bombay	May	Lady Rouvena	350	Buckles and Co.	Bourne Russell	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	May	Vittoria	280	James H. Southam	Jas. H. Southam	City Canal	J. S. Brinley.
	9	Arctura	900	Robert Clark	Robert Hamilton	W. I. Docks	W. D. Dowson.
	15	Frederick	800	C. G. Burrill	John Micalfe	W. I. Docks	J. S. Brinley, and Wm. Redhead, jun.
	21	Mary of Anglesa	322	Henry Barrick	Thomas Legg	Rotterdam	Australian Company King's Arms Yard.
	28	Waterloo	416	Thomas Brocklebank	James Stewart	Rotterdam	Joseph Horsley and Co.
	31	Mary	250	J. Crozier	S. Mac Beath	Lon. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	21	Woodark	200	Buckles and Co.	Robert Brash	Lon. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	25	Nimrod	340	Thomas Harvie	Thomas Harvie	Lon. Docks	John Cramond, Philpot-lane.
	June	Courier	250	Arnold and Woollet	Arthur Cramond	Lon. Docks	John Cramond, Philpot-lane.
P. D. Land & N. S. Wales	May	Oratia	385	William Hudson	William Hudson	Lon. Docks	Anstee and Strubs, Great St. Helen's.
	15	Albem.	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill, Nicholas-lane.
	15	Albem.	350	John Pirie and Co.	Matthew Proctor	Lon. Docks	John Pirie and Co.
	15	Albem.	350	John Pirie and Co.	Matthew Proctor	Lon. Docks	John Pirie and Co.
	15	Albem.	350	John Pirie and Co.	Matthew Proctor	Lon. Docks	John Pirie and Co.
	15	Albem.	350	John Pirie and Co.	Matthew Proctor	Lon. Docks	John Pirie and Co.
	15	Albem.	350	John Pirie and Co.	Matthew Proctor	Lon. Docks	John Pirie and Co.
	15	Albem.	350	John Pirie and Co.	Matthew Proctor	Lon. Docks	John Pirie and Co.
	15	Albem.	350	John Pirie and Co.	Matthew Proctor	Lon. Docks	John Pirie and Co.
	15	Albem.	350	John Pirie and Co.	Matthew Proctor	Lon. Docks	John Pirie and Co.

26th April 1827.

PRICE CURRENT, April 27.

EAST-INDIA PRODUCE.															
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Coffee, Javacwt	2	6	0	—	2	13	0	Galls, Blue	4	10	0	—	5	0	0
— Cheribon	2	6	0	—	2	13	0	Indigo, Blue and Violet lb	0	13	3	—	0	13	10
— Sumatra	2	2	0	—	2	5	0	— Purple and Violet	0	12	9	—	0	13	0
— Bourbon	3	0	0	—	6	0	0	— Extra fine Violet	0	12	6	—	0	12	9
— Mocha	3	0	0	—	6	0	0	— Violet	0	9	9	—	0	11	9
Cotton, Suratlb	0	0	5	—	0	0	6	— Violet and Copper	0	9	0	—	0	11	3
— Madras	0	0	5	—	0	0	6	— Fine Copper	0	10	0	—	0	10	9
— Bengal	0	0	5	—	0	0	6	— Copper	0	8	9	—	0	9	9
— Bourbon	0	0	9	—	0	1	0	— Consuming sorts	0	7	0	—	0	11	0
Drugs & for Dyeing.								— Benares and Oude	0	5	6	—	0	8	0
Aloes, Epaticacwt	16	0	0	—	21	0	0	— Low and bad Oude	0	3	0	—	0	5	3
Aniseeds, Star	3	10	0	—	2	7	0	— Madras	0	5	1	—	0	8	11
Borax, Refined	2	4	0	—	2	6	0	— Do. mid. ord. and bad	0	13	0	—	0	16	8
— Unrefined, or Tincal	2	5	0	—	2	7	0	Rice, Bengal Whitecwt.	0	18	0	—	1	1	0
Camphire	8	10	0	—	10	0	0	— Patna	0	18	0	—	1	1	0
Cardamoms, Malabarlb	0	9	0	—	0	10	0	Safflower	1	10	0	—	7	10	9
— Ceylon	0	1	0	—	0	1	4	— Sage	0	15	0	—	1	10	0
Cassia Budscwt.	8	10	0	—	9	0	0	Saltpetre	1	1	6	—	1	9	0
— Lignea	5	0	0	—	6	0	0	Silk, Bengal Skeinlb	0	8	1	—	0	9	8
Castor Oillb	0	0	6	—	0	1	6	— Novi	0	12	7	—	1	3	7
China Rootcwt.	1	10	0	—	2	0	0	— Ditto White	0	11	0	—	1	0	0
Coculus Indicus	3	0	0	—	3	10	0	— China	0	15	9	—	1	2	1
Dragon's Blood	5	0	0	—	24	0	0	Spices, Cinnamonlb	0	3	3	—	0	6	8
Gum Ammoniac, lump	3	0	0	—	5	0	0	— Cloves	0	1	10	—	0	3	8
— Arabic	1	10	0	—	3	10	0	— Mace	0	3	6	—	0	5	6
— Assafetida	6	0	0	—	8	0	0	— Nutmegs	0	3	6	—	0	4	2
— Benjamin	3	0	0	—	50	0	0	— Gingercwt.	0	15	0	—	0	16	0
— Annil	3	10	0	—	8	0	0	— Pepper, Blacklb	0	0	4	—	0	0	5
— Gambogium								— White	0	1	9	—	0	2	6
— Myrrh	4	0	0	—	8	0	0	Sugar, Bengalcwt.	1	9	0	—	1	19	0
— Olibanum	2	0	0	—	4	15	0	— Siam and China	1	12	0	—	2	1	0
Kino	14	0	0	—	16	0	0	— Mauritius	1	6	0	—	1	16	0
Lac Lakelb	0	1	0	—				— Tea, Bohealb	0	1	6	—	0	2	1
— Dye	0	4	4	—	0	4	8	— Congou	0	2	3	—	0	3	5
— Shellcwt.	2	10	0	—	5	0	0	— Souchong							
— Stick	2	0	0	—	3	0	0	— Campol							
Musk, Chinaoz.	0	10	0	—	1	0	0	— Twankay	0	2	10	—	0	3	9
Oil, Cassiaoz.	0	0	5	—	0	0	6	— Pekoe	0	4	1	—	0	4	2
— Cinnamon	0	9	0	—	0	12	0	— Hyson Skin	0	2	9	—	0	4	7
— Cloveslb	0	1	6	—	0	1	9	— Hyson	0	4	7	—	0	5	4
— Mace	0	0	2	—	0	0	3	— Young Hyson	0	4	3				
— Nutmegs	0	2	9	—	0	3	0	— Gunpowder							
Opium								Tortoisheshell	1	10	0	—	2	10	0
Rhubarb	0	1	6	—	0	3	0	— Wood, Sanders Redton	8	0	0	—	9	0	0
Sal Ammoniaccwt.	3	0	0	—	3	10	0								
Sennalb	0	0	0	—	0	2	0	AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.							
Turmeric, Javacwt.	1	10	0	—	1	16	0	Oil, Southernton	80	0	0				
— Bengal	1	5	0	—	1	10	0	— Sperme	67	0	0				
— China	1	10	0	—	2	2	0	— Head Matter	75	0	0				
Galls, In Sorts	4	0	0	—	4	10	0	— Woollb	0	2	0	—	0	5	8
								— Wood, Blue Gumton	0	7	10	—	0	8	10
								— Cedar	0	4	0	—	0	0	5

DAILY PRICES OF STOCKS.

From the 26th of March to the 25th of April 1827.

[illegible]

THE ASIATIC JOURNAL

FOR

JUNE, 1827.

Original Communications,

&c. &c. &c.

BRITISH COMMERCE WITH INDIA.

THE note of preparation seems to have been at length given : the motion of Mr. Wolryche Whitmore in the House of Commons, on the 15th May, for a select committee to inquire into the trade carried on between Great Britain and India (of which we have given an ample report *), is the first indication of the approach of that great and momentous question, the determination of which will probably decide whether the government of our eastern empire is to be in future administered by the corporate body under whose care and management (subject latterly to the immediate superintendence of the Ministers of the Crown,) it has reached its present size and prosperity; or whether that empire shall be placed upon the footing of our plantations and settlements in other quarters of the world, and be transferred, without any additional constitutional check, to the Crown. To us it appears that the two questions respecting commerce and territory are indivisible. If the Company's commercial privileges be entirely withdrawn, the mere investiture of political power, subject too to such control as almost entirely neutralizes it, is a burthen

* We may take this occasion to caution our readers against concluding, when our parliamentary reports differ from others, that we invent them. The little interest felt by the public in general in respect to Indian topics, accounts for the omission in the newspapers of many little circumstances which to our readers are interesting. We have often, therefore, upon great questions relating to India, some person specially present in the House to preserve such circumstances from being lost. In regard to a charge (for so we suppose it must be considered) in a cotemporary work, that we mutilate parliamentary reports to suit our own objects, we may just state (although charges from that quarter deserve little attention) that we have not room for a full report of a debate in Parliament; and that we govern ourselves in making curtailments by the rule observed in our reports of debates elsewhere, which Col. Stanhope has been so candid as to admit are "distinguished for great correctness and rigid impartiality." The reasons for retaining or rejecting parts of the debate are too multifarious to be enumerated: statements which may have been repeatedly made, however important abstractedly, we retrench; the observations of an official speaker are entitled to preference before those of an individual whose assertions are often founded upon loose conjecture or mere hearsay. In short, an office like this is necessarily discretionary, and no person—no candid person—can justly charge us with abusing it. The curtailment of the speech of Sir C. Forbes, referred to by the writer to whom we allude, was owing to its unimportance compared with other speeches, and most of the topics had been urged by the speaker at the East-India House; the speech of Col. Lushington possessed the best possible claims to insertion, for it had been mistaken in all the daily papers, as well as ascribed to another person, and the report was furnished (as we should always wish it to be) by the party himself.

burthen instead of a boon, clogged as the authority would be by the heavy expenses and the heavy responsibility, which the government of a vast empire like India imposes upon its rulers.

Still we are ready to admit, that there is a consideration paramount to all questions of individual claims or the rights of a few, namely, that which relates to the welfare of the two countries concerned: the claims and the rights of the people of England, and the people of India stand first in order; no rule of prescription can be set up on the part of the East-India Company, if upon well-established grounds it shall appear that a change in the existing relations between Great Britain and India will be advantageous for both these countries.

Our humble office, at present, shall be that of mere pioneers, to remove obstructions, and to make the route to the result more easy and practicable. We have endeavoured, and shall not relax in our endeavours, not merely to clear away the impediments and the rubbish which certain active agents in the work of misrepresentation have strenuously laboured to cast on the path of inquiry, but to accumulate such authenticated facts, without regard to any preconceived or favourite theory, as tend to elucidate the various political topics which are involved in the great question we refer to.

With the same view we shall in this article submit to our readers, in a perspicuous form, some valuable data regarding the trade between this country and India, which were not accessible at the time when Mr. Whitmore's motion was discussed, and are yet, we believe, but in very few hands. Much is often alleged against figures, which persons of different opinions will sometimes, by a sort of magical process, employ to demonstrate very opposite theories. We have, however, no other guides on this question; and if we reject them, we are bewildered in the wide ocean of speculation and conjecture. We shall not encumber our statement with many remarks; they shall be only those which we conceive necessary for a right apprehension of the subject.

We lay before our readers, in the first place, an account of the total value of the imports into the United Kingdom from the East-Indies and China (including the Mauritius), for the last thirteen years, beginning with the year 1814, the year *previous* to the period when private-traders were admitted to a participation in the commerce with India.

Total official Value of the Imports into the United Kingdom from the East-Indies and China, including the island of Mauritius.

Year.	By the East-India Company.	By Private-Traders.	Total.
	£.	£.	£.
1814.....	3,986,523	2,311,863	6,298,386
1815.....	3,948,794	4,089,942	8,038,736
1816.....	4,591,172	3,719,525	8,310,697
1817.....	4,094,225	3,593,053	7,687,278
1818.....	2,944,626	4,393,063	7,337,689
1819.....	3,244,431	4,293,132	7,537,563
1820.....	3,907,789	3,654,858	7,562,647
1821.....	3,892,805	2,340,766	6,233,571
1822.....	3,160,742	1,945,658	5,106,400
1823.....	3,636,196	3,282,344	6,918,540
1824.....	3,618,425	3,693,930	7,312,355
1825.....	3,469,433	3,112,625	6,582,058
1826.....	3,696,960	4,305,878	8,002,838

Let us offer a few observations upon this account. The fundamental argument employed by Mr. Whitmore was the success of the experiment made at the last renewal of the Company's charter, in the extensive improvement of the trade between this country and India. Now it is very evident that Mr. Whitmore could not have been aware of the real state of the import branch of the trade, which, if it has increased at all, has not augmented in a *marvellous* degree. The average amount of the aggregate imports for the thirteen years (which is the fairest way of shewing the real state of the case) is £6,148,366, which, instead of shewing an increase, is *less* than the amount of imports in 1814 by just £250,000! Mr. Whitmore probably alluded to the state of the export branch, to which we shall hereafter refer; but it should be recollected that an increase in one branch of the trade whilst there is a falling-off in the other, gives room for suspicion that the former is artificially stimulated; we mean, that goods may be sent out on mere speculation, and may either lie a dead-weight in the hands of the consignees, or be sold at a ruinous loss to the shipper, as a less evil than that of their return with double freight.

We next proceed to dissect the items of the account, by shewing the imports of the principal articles: and we begin with that of tea, which is still in the hands of the Company, at least to a considerable extent. The following is the value of the tea imported from China during the years before-mentioned.

Year.	By the East-India Company.	By Private-Traders.	Total.
1814.....	£24,303,758	£1,772,792	£26,076,550
1815	23,923,141	1,445,114	25,368,255
1816	33,912,322	2,322,049	36,234,371
1817	29,353,441	2,110,437	31,463,878
1818	18,847,594	1,218,134	20,065,728
1819	22,431,254	1,319,157	23,750,411
1820	28,476,231	1,671,763	30,147,994
1821	28,545,962	2,185,075	30,731,037
1822	25,746,437	1,616,152	27,362,589
1823	27,478,814	1,568,071	29,046,885
1824	29,761,662	1,920,315	31,681,977
1825	27,517,938	1,827,761	29,445,699
1826	28,003,559	1,836,842	29,840,401

Upon this article it is not necessary to make any remark. The next article is sugar, of which the following are the quantities imported from the East-Indies and China, including the Mauritius, for the same period.

Year.	By the East-India Company. Cwts.	By Private-Traders. Cwts.	Total. Cwts.
1814	40,241	3,548	43,789
1815	8,322	115,996	124,318
1816	6,442	119,824	126,266
1817	16,765	106,607	123,372
1818	19,855	142,559	162,414
1819	21,359	182,546	203,905
1820	19,298	257,929	277,227
1821	39,983	229,175	269,158
1822	11,376	198,588	209,964
1823	57,285	162,295	219,580
1824	39,123	228,789	267,912
1825	20,866	223,202	244,068
1826	80,845	262,008	342,853

Upon this account some remarks seem necessary. Unaccompanied by observation and explanation, the account before us would afford every proof that could be desired in support of Mr. Whitmore's argument: a short statement of facts will set the matter upon its proper footing. Subsequent to the peace, but before the transfer of Java to the Dutch, which took place three or four years after, the produce of that island was sent to Holland *via* England, our laws not then permitting the produce of places situated within the limits of the East-India Company's charter to be shipped for foreign Europe: all such produce was then brought to England, warehoused here, and recorded as actual importations in the Custom-House books. The quantities of sugar as well as coffee so circuitously brought was very great, until the cause ceased to operate. This explains the *immediate* augmentation in the quantity of sugar imported from the East, and much of the large importations in succeeding years antecedent to 1817. At this period another cause had begun to operate in swelling the mass of sugar brought from India, namely, the accelerated cultivation of that article in the Mauritius. So large and so rapid has been that increase, that it forms one of the grounds upon which Mr. Buxton, Mr. W. Smith, and others, charge the authorities at that island with conniving at the clandestine introduction of slaves. We have no official data to show the quantities of Mauritius sugar imported, distinct from that of the East-Indies generally, with which it was classed in the customs books, till the year 1825; but from the account laid before parliament for another object than that contemplated by Mr. Whitmore, it appears, that the sugar imported into this country from the Mauritius, which, in 1810 (the period we took possession of it, and for some time after, produced only about 32,000 cwts.), amounted in 1825 to 93,723 cwts., and in 1826 to 166,245 cwts. If these quantities be subtracted from those in the preceding statement, the real increase in the quantity of Eastern sugar imported, since the opening of the trade, will be comparatively small.

The next article is indigo, imported during the like periods.

Year.	By the East-India Company. lbs.	By Private Traders. lbs.	Total. lbs.
1814	—	6,752,302	6,752,302
1815	—	5,543,222	5,543,222
1816	—	7,238,114	7,238,114
1817	—	4,926,105	4,926,105
1818	—	5,456,645	5,456,645
1819	—	3,688,694	3,688,694
1820	119,979	4,802,771	4,922,750
1821	19,104	3,916,729	3,935,833
1822	100,904	2,382,571	2,483,475
1823	854,689	5,698,665	6,553,354
1824	519,913	4,065,056	4,584,969
1825	978,597	5,078,156	6,056,753
1826 ...	1,327,908	6,345,802	7,673,710

Here we have any thing but satisfactory evidence of increase. The trade, be it observed, was wholly in the hands of the private traders for five years after the opening of the trade, and it fell off to one-half, when the Company commenced importing; and whilst their importation has increased to 1,300,000 lbs., the private trade of last year, the largest by far for ten years before, is considerably under the amount of 1814!

The next item is coffee, of which the following statement exhibits the quantity imported during the period mentioned.

Year.	By the East-India Company. lbs.	By Private Traders. lbs.	Total. lbs.
1814	491,568	7,452,877	7,944,445
1815	726,992	25,778,983	26,505,975
1816	1,114,624	17,602,834	18,717,458
1817	6,975,248	6,581,856	13,557,104
1818	169,120	1,876,856	2,045,976
1819	—	4,107,823	4,107,823
1820	149,520	5,348,201	5,497,721
1821	—	1,904,021	1,904,021
1822	—	4,476,785	4,476,785
1823	227,024	3,887,265	4,114,289
1824	302,400	5,458,512	5,760,912
1825	1,302,672	2,782,525	4,085,197
1826	275,296	5,245,058	5,520,354

In this account we perceive a striking corroboration of the remark we before made, explanatory of the large figures in the quantity of sugar imported in the years immediately succeeding 1814; namely, that the bulk of the imports of sugar and coffee consisted of Dutch property conveyed to Europe from Java in English bottoms, and which, by our absurd laws then in force, were required to be unshipped and then reshipped for their original destination. By this arrangement, our imports and our exports were artificially magnified to the total discomfiture of many an ingenious theory. The transactions referred to ceased in 1817, and accordingly we perceive that since that period the importation of coffee from the East-Indies has diminished. Even the quantity imported last year, which exceeded any year subsequent to 1817, is two millions and a half of pounds weight below that imported in 1814. This article therefore furnishes no proof that our import trade with India has flourished since the renewal of the charter.

Cotton wool is the next article; the quantity of which is as follows:

Year.	By the East-India Company. lbs.	By Private Traders. lbs.	Total. lbs.
1814	366,691	2,483,627	2,850,318
1815	1,023	7,174,220	7,175,243
1816	475,476	6,497,314	6,972,790
1817	1,697,100	29,310,470	31,007,570
1818	7,985	67,448,426	67,456,411
1819	715,161	58,141,100	58,856,261
1820	4,232,823	18,893,002	23,125,825
1821	4,633,013	4,194,094	8,827,107
1822	1,413,448	3,140,777	4,554,225
1823	1,037,307	13,801,810	14,839,117
1824	1,240,821	15,179,184	16,420,005
1825	1,702,604	18,591,658	20,294,262
1826	1,058,400	20,129,500	21,187,900

The extravagant speculations which have taken place in this article, and which are fully revealed by the astonishing fluctuations in the importations, render cotton a very unsafe criterion by which to judge of the state of our trade

trade with India. It will be seen that during the three first years in this statement the average importation was 5,666,000 lbs.; in the ensuing three years it rose to 52,440,000 lbs.; in the next three years it fell to 12,169,000 lbs.; in the four years following it rose again to 18,185,000 lbs. These extravagant and ruinous speculations were in the private trade. That an augmented importation of raw cotton has taken place we are fully aware; it is occasioned by the extension of our manufactories, and it is quite independent of the cause alluded to by Mr. Whitmore.

Silk, raw and waste, is the next article.

Year.	By the East-India Company. lbs.	By Private Traders. lbs.	Total. lbs.
1814	983,287	132,826	1,116,113
1815	825,750	251,758	1,077,508
1816	397,178	456,721	853,899
1817	471,792	187,087	658,879
1818	704,067	414,012	1,118,079
1819	698,863	402,081	1,100,944
1820	914,971	513,271	1,428,242
1821	934,654	390,934	1,325,588
1822	825,229	271,672	1,096,901
1823	878,682	740,675	1,619,357
1824	777,556	529,744	1,307,300
1825	637,011	392,335	1,029,346
1826	952,739	837,121	1,789,860

The increase in the trade with respect to this article is not very apparent. The reduction of the duty accounts for the amount imported in 1826.

We add, in the last place, the imports of cotton and herba piece goods, which offer as little evidence of a real increase as the foregoing article.

Year.	By the East-India Company. Pieces.	By Private Traders. Pieces.	Total. Pieces.
1814	1,357,608	724,520	2,082,128
1815	1,069,861	1,106,397	2,176,258
1816	1,230,613	309,348	1,539,961
1817	1,119,013	409,410	1,528,423
1818	1,088,123	513,797	1,601,920
1819	1,018,011	460,913	1,478,924
1820	809,711	840,762	1,650,473
1821	705,163	397,615	1,102,778
1822	324,429	140,224	464,653
1823	417,410	424,466	841,876
1824	232,747	1,247,787	1,480,534
1825	220,185	690,243	910,428
1826	204,257	887,563	1,091,820

We next proceed to show the amount of the export trade from England to India. We subjoin the following summary statement, which we have extracted with some labour from official sources, and which may be relied upon as accurate, of the *declared* (not *official*) value of the exports from Great Britain* to the East-Indies and China (including Mauritius), distinguishing the two principal manufactures of woollens and cottons:—

Woollen

* The exports from Ireland are not included; they are very trifling, amounting to a few hundred pounds.

Year	Woollen Manufactures.			Cotton Manufactures.			Total, including all other Articles.		
	By the Company.	By Free-Traders.	Total.	By the Company.	By Free-Traders.	Total.	By the Company.	By Free-Traders.	Total.
1814	1,064,222	20,213	1,084,435	17,770	91,702	109,490	1,728,689	830,343	2,559,032
1815	1,006,005	54,761	1,060,766	4,948	137,463	142,411	1,744,456	1,422,504	3,166,961
1816	979,536	47,715	1,027,251	371	100,103	100,534	1,530,081	1,847,777	3,378,758
1817	734,720	103,007	827,727	35	422,779	422,814	1,306,780	2,716,862	4,022,642
1818	789,328	153,857	943,185	349	700,543	700,892	1,246,966	3,117,018	4,363,984
1819	824,669	113,549	938,218	110	461,085	461,195	1,354,144	1,671,806	3,025,950
1820	1,031,403	317,001	1,348,404	6,529	844,352	850,881	1,714,718	2,272,909	3,987,528
1821	1,046,274	375,280	1,421,554	10,740	1,111,324	1,122,064	1,978,712	2,630,966	4,609,678
1822	765,711	314,768	1,080,479	5,281	1,139,776	1,145,057	1,272,301	2,816,545	4,088,846
1823	760,234	284,552	1,044,786	6,092	1,161,420	1,167,512	1,167,974	3,189,481	4,357,456
1824	644,567	234,749	879,316	13,092	1,100,385	1,113,477	1,209,152	2,991,675	4,200,828
1825	700,413	198,470	898,883	2,965	1,034,073	1,037,038	1,317,272	2,643,047	3,960,320
1826	921,852	271,244	1,193,796	15,068	1,039,508	1,054,576	1,842,280	2,897,053	4,739,333

The foregoing account presents undoubtedly a very encouraging picture of our trade with India. It affords, also, the means of correcting some grievous mistatements, into which even Mr. Whitmore seems to have been betrayed, in respect to the ratio of increase in our exports to India since the opening of the trade, and which forms one of the strongest pillars of his argument. We have not inserted in our parliamentary report the figures which the hon. gentleman quoted to the house, because we found a discrepancy in the reports of them; but all agree in representing Mr. Whitmore to have stated, that the annual average of our exports of woollen manufactures, from 1814 to 1822, was £376,399; and that it had increased in 1823 and 1824 to £962,061. It is clear that in his statement an increase to some extent was assumed; yet this is totally opposite to the fact, as may be seen by examination of the account we have given. The real average of the exports of woollens from 1814 to 1822 was £1,081,331; and the real average of the exports in the years 1823 and 1824 was only £962,051; shewing a *falling-off* to the amount of one hundred thousand pounds. The exports in each of the years 1823 and 1824 were less than in 1814. The close approximation, in the last item, between the two accounts, shows that they are framed upon precisely the same principle, as to the periods and the articles included; we can only therefore attribute this mistake to negligence on the part of the person to whom Mr. Whitmore was indebted for the statement he made to the House, and which was received with cries of "*hear,*" "*hear!*" If this be held a criterion of the question, it is clearly contrary to Mr. Whitmore's view of it.

The increase in the exports of cotton manufactures is very great; the impulse which has been given to that branch of our national industry is, however, perceptible in almost an equal degree every where: it has been owing to various causes distinct from any encouragement given to it in India. Our cottons have forced themselves into the Indian continent, as well as elsewhere, by means of the low prices at which they are procurable; but it is not reasonable

able to expect that we can supersede the native manufactures, in a country where these fabrics are still made in perfection, where the raw material itself is produced, and where human labour is little, if at all, dearer than the power of steam in England. Nay, the policy of promoting a competition which may extinguish one of the few branches of Indian industry, is very questionable. It would be more beneficial to the natives of India to encourage in that country the erection of cotton manufactories, worked by steam.

In looking over the petitions presented to Parliament during the last month respecting the India trade, which, with one exception, confine their prayer to the equalization of the duties on East and West India commodities, we could not avoid being struck with the uniformity of language observed between some of them, shewing that they proceeded (as Mr. Huskisson observed, respecting the petitions against the navigation system,) from the same manufactory. One or two peculiarities, however, occur, which deserve notice. The petition presented by Sir Thomas Lethbridge from Frome, in Somersetshire, states that "since the partial opening of the East-India trade, the value of British exports to India has been much increased, having risen from upwards of *two millions* in 1815, to upwards of *four millions* in 1825; and that as the exports to China have not greatly varied, the augmentation is to be chiefly referred to British India." The reader has only to look at the account we have given, and he will see the little accordance of this statement with the fact: the exports in 1825, instead of being two millions in excess of those in 1815, exceeded them by less than £800,000. These mistakes are serious, because they discover the fallacy of the arguments which seem to have satisfied those who commit them; and they sometimes excite a suspicion that misrepresentation is at work.

We must not overlook the statement on behalf of unrestricted trade to India in the Birmingham petition (which recognizes, as a fundamental argument for a free-trade, the increase in the items of exports), of "the advantages to which an extended trade to India would confer on its inhabitants, by lessening the superstition, ignorance, and idolatry which prevail in that country." Although we are far from undervaluing the moral benefits accruing from commercial intercourse between nations, it is the first time, probably, that it was proposed as a *panacea* to cure the inveterate evils which the moralist deplors in the system of Hindostan. There seems in this argument an endeavour to enlist religious and moral feelings in the controversy respecting the question of free-trade with the East: that such a project exists is the more impressed upon our minds from observing that the writers on behalf of negro emancipation are beginning, most indiscreetly we think, to overstep their province of discussion, and apparently to seek an opportunity of indemnifying themselves, as they suppose, for their disappointments in the West by what they can get in the East.

THE BRITISH TERRITORIES IN THE DECCAN.

(Continued from p. 620.)

THE first of the states mentioned as within our general limits is that of Sattara. After the death of Sahoo Rajah, his successor remained close prisoner in Sattara. He was the son of Sewajee, son of Rajah Ram, and in him the real line of Sewajee became extinct, for on his death in 1777 he was succeeded by Sahoo, his adopted son, who was born of a remote branch of the family, and had been a common horseman. This prince retained the active habits which he had learned before his imprisonment; and on some relaxation of his confinement, early in Bajee Rao's reign, he declared his intention to act for himself, and began to assemble an army. The weakness of the Peishwa's government gave him some months to gain head, and he had collected about four thousand men when his force was dispersed by Purseram Bhow and Madhoo Rao Rastia. Chetter Sing, the brother of the Rajah, who had principally instigated the disturbance, escaped, and after long wandering in Hindoostan and the Deccan, was treacherously seized by Trimbuckjee Danglia, and died in confinement during the late war. His son is now at Sattara. His cause appears to have been popular; and an impostor, who raised a rebellion in his name, succeeded in baffling the Peishwa for several years. He was captured by Colonel Cunningham at Pruchheetgurh, and is now in confinement.

The territory subject to the Rajah of Sattara yields 13,75,000 rupees of direct revenue, and about 3,00,000 enjoyed by Jagheerdars, besides 3,00,000 of alienations. Subsequent to the subversion of the Peishwa's authority it has been managed exactly as a province of our own.

The founder of the petty state of Colapore, was Sumbajee, son of Ram Rajah, and grandson of Sewajee. The territory he possessed was early reduced by Sewajee, and seems to have been a principal residence of his son. The date of its first assignment to Sumbajee does not appear; but in 1728 that prince was confederated with the Nizam, and accompanied his army to Poona, and in 1731 a treaty was concluded between Sahoo Rajah and Sumbajee, by which it was agreed that all north of the Kistna should belong to Sahoo, all between the Kistna and Warna and the Toombuddra to Sumbajee, and that all conquests south of the Toombuddra should be equally divided. The territory assigned to the Rajah was partly held by the Moguls, and partly by Dessyes who had set up for themselves. Some progress was made in subduing it under Ballajee Bajee Rao, but it was not till the reign of Madhoo Rao, about 1762, that it was effectually reduced. Checkoree and Manowlee were then given to the Rajah: they frequently changed masters, sometimes by treaty and sometimes by force, until 1804, when they were conquered from the Rajah by Appa Dessye for the Peishwa. This led to a long struggle, in which the Rajah's government was on the point of extinction when rescued by the interposition of the British Government, in 1812. The Rajah's subsequent fidelity procured him the restoration of those districts, which are valuable in themselves, and which had long been the object of his ardent wishes. The state of Colapore has remained in perfect tranquillity since it was delivered from Appa Dessye, and as it is now in a state of as high prosperity as it ever attained, it may be considered as well disposed to the present order of things. It has been a maxim, never, on any account, to interfere in its internal affairs, and the plan has hitherto been attended with excellent effects; but as the

Asiatic Journ. Vol. XXIII. No. 138. 5 H ,Rajah

Rajah has been a minor, and the power in the hands of a party which adhered to our interests and made use of our name, the trial has not been so complete.

The Nizam has but few possessions remaining within the Mahratta frontiers, but there are various possessions and numerous claims of the Peishwa's Government within his. The districts within the Nizam's country and the choute actually possessed by the Peishwa and his jagheerdars, at the breaking out of the war, yielded in former times an annual amount of forty-five lacs, but the recent receipts amounted only to nine lacs and a half. This is, however, independent of the enams and charitable assignments, and also of the expense of collection, which must have been extremely heavy to the Peishwa, although the Nizam can now collect them without additional expense; allowing for this, the gain to the Nizam is computed at twelve lacs. The amount claimed by the Peishwa for choute and other dues withheld, in addition to the sum actually possessed, was thirty lacs, besides undefined claims; and the arrears amounted to an enormous sum. The choute of Bedar alone is seventeen lacs, and the arrears, since the late Nizam's death, would be 2,38,00,000 rupees.

With respect to the advantages reaped by the Nizam from the overthrow of the Mahratta Government, Mr. Elphinstone observes as follows:—"The acquisitions of the British Government by the war in Hindostan are, probably, compensated by the obligation to which it is subject in that quarter and in the Deccan. It has been obliged to make considerable additions to its regular army and has strong forces to maintain in a state of preparation for the security of its conquests and the Nizam's, besides providing for the Rajah of Sattara, the Peishwa and his family including Amrut Rao, the whole of his jagheerdars, ministers, chiefs, and a considerable portion of his army. If all these expenses be deducted from our acquisition in this part of India, the balance at present, and for some time, will be but little in our favour, and the profit we are ultimately to derive will depend on our own management. On the other hand, the Nizam receives his share free of every kind of expense; begins to enjoy the fruits of it from the moment when it is put into his hands; and has as much the power of improving as we, since the sources of revenue ceded to him once yielded five times their present amount. The contract is rendered quite clear by the fact that (after the provision for the Rajah and all other permanent charges have been provided for) the civil and military expenses which we incur in addition to those of former times, will nearly swallow up our whole revenue by the conquest; and if any further addition is required to our army they will much exceed it, the expenses of the auxiliaries and of the former subsidiary force being provided for by former treaties, and not included in the above calculation. So far is the Nizam from being entitled to plead the absence of all connexion on his part with the expenses we think fit to keep up, that if his highness's territory were in a flourishing condition and his government efficient, a large portion of those expenses might with perfect safety be avoided."

The territories belonging to different Mahratta chiefs intermixed with ours are generally those which belonged to the princes who now hold them before they had any possessions beyond their own country. The inconveniences arising from them, especially those belonging to Scindia, consist chiefly in their affording a harbour for robbers, and a receptacle for stolen goods; in petty disputes and petty privileges, such as those of levying customs and feeding cattle on our lands, and that of coining money; and in the resistance offered by our subjects to the authority of those states. For these inconveniences it is not easy to propose an effectual remedy.

The Jagheerdars may be differently classed, according to their relations to the old government, their standing, the duties they had to perform, and their claims on the British Government.

In the first classification, it is only necessary to notice those who possessed some degree of independence, the relations of the others to the Government depending on the nature of their duties. The Prittee Nedhee, the Senaputty, and the eight Purdhans, especially the Punt Suchem, together with Angria, are the whole who fall under this description.

The Prittee Nedhee was originally the prime minister under the Rajah of Sattara. When the Peishwa acquired that situation he fell into insignificance, but was allowed to retain his jagheers. As late as Bajee Rao's time he had a jagheer valued at eighteen lacs a year, but the present Prittee Nedhee being of a wild and unsettled disposition, twice rebelled against the Peishwa, and was wounded, taken prisoner, and deprived of the whole of the jagheer but a tract nominally yielding two lacs, which has still been left to him.

The Senaputty was general: he was a Mahratta, though the ministers were all Brahmins. After his unsuccessful opposition to the Peishwa, the head of the family fled to the Mogul country, and the house sunk into complete obscurity. It still possesses a small jagheer; and the Senaputty lately thought himself fortunate in forming a matrimonial connexion with Scindia, whose low family would, in other circumstances, have rendered such an alliance very degrading. He now resides at Gwalior.

The eight Purdhuns were ministers under the Prittee Nedhee, as was usual in Hindoo Governments. These officers were hereditary, and they were all supposed to be quite equal, but they have all fallen into neglect except the Peishwa and the Punt Suchem. The latter has a territory yielding two lacs of rupees, immediately to the south and west of Poona, and extending to the Concan. It contains the strong forts of Bhoorup, Toong, Tckona, Rajghur, Toona, and Rohera, and is now to form part of the Rajah of Sattara's territory. The Suchem was never considered as more than a dependent, or rather than a subject of the Peishwa's, and as he submitted very early he ought to be secured against any loss of authority by his transfer to the Rajah.

Angria is a Mahratta chief; he was among the earliest supporters of Sewajee. His family at one time possessed almost the whole of the Concan, and his ancestor was the principal means of establishing the government of Rajah Sahoo and the authority of the first Peishwa. He has, however, been reduced by gradual encroachments to a very small compass, his whole revenue not exceeding three lacs. He received investiture from the Peishwa on the Rajah's behalf, but was otherwise independent.

The other Jagheerdars are divided into military chiefs, and Mutsuddies or ministers. The military chiefs are either Sirdars who furnished a contingent of troops which they themselves commanded; Selladars, who furnished troops in the same way, but without the same rank; and Paga chiefs, who had commands in the household or stable horse. There is also a class of immediate servants or dependents of the Rajahs called Hoojrant, and another of Killadars, (commandants of forts belonging to the Moguls, who gave up their charge for a provision of this nature).

Of these different classes, a few are the heirs of old Jagheerdars of the Mahommedan monarchies (for the custom of paying services by grants of lands is known to have been usual with all the Indian governments, Mussulman as well as Hindoo). These old families which have survived so many revolutions have been left undiminished by us. The principal are Jaun Rao, Naik Nan-

balkur of Futton, the family of Duffy in Jut, the two families of Ghoorpeny at Moodholi and Bailgee, the chief of Ramdroog and Neergoond (though these last were rather branches of one of the little independent governments under Dessyes, that sprung up on the downfall of the Beejapore monarchy).

These are all Mahratta except the two last, who are Brahmin usurpers of a Mahratta principality.

The next class who hold lands from the Rajah of Sattara are all Mahrattas except a few ministers.

The third class are the Jagheerdars of the Peishwa. These are generally Brahmins or Mahrattas of low family raised by the Peishwa. These deserve equal consideration with the last-mentioned, for though inferior in antiquity, they have had recent possession of power, and therefore suffer particularly by the revolution.

Mr. Elphinstone next considers the country directly under our own Government in reference to military arrangements, revenue, police, criminal justice, and civil justice.

The details concerning the military arrangements relate to the number and distribution of the British forces in the Deccan.

With respect to the revenue, the principle adopted by Mr. Elphinstone was to preserve unimpaired the established practice; and although more changes were introduced than he intended, that principle has been followed to a considerable extent. Mr. Elphinstone, accordingly, gives a sketch of the Mahratta system, previous to an account of that which has superseded it. We subjoin his account of the village government.

"In whatever point of view we examine the native government in the Deccan, the first and most important feature is the division into villages or townships. These communities contain in miniature all the materials of a state within themselves, and are almost sufficient to protect their members if all other governments were withdrawn. Though probably not compatible with a very good form of government, they are an excellent remedy for the imperfections of a bad one; they prevent the bad effects of its negligence and weakness, and even present some barrier against its tyranny and rapacity.

"Each village has a portion of ground attached to it, which is committed to the management of the inhabitants. The boundaries are carefully marked and jealously guarded. They are divided into fields, the limits of which are as exactly known; each field has a name, and is kept distinct even when the cultivation of it has long been abandoned. The villagers are almost entirely cultivators of the grounds, with the addition of the few traders and artizans that are required to supply their wants. The head of each village is the Potail, who has under him an assistant called a Chougula, and a clerk called a Kool-kurnee. There are besides twelve village officers, well known by the name of Barra Ballootee. These are the astrologer, the priest, the carpenter, barber, &c.; but the only ones who are concerned in the administration of the government are the Sowar or Potedar, who is silversmith and assayer of money; and the Mhow, who, in addition to various other important duties, acts as watchman to the village. Each of these classes consist of one or more individuals, according as their original families have branched out. The Mhows are seldom fewer than four or five; and there are besides, where these tribes are numerous, very frequently several Bheels or Ramoosees employed also as watchmen, but performing none of the other duties of the Mhow."

With a few exceptions, all the villagers are cultivators, who (as there are few labourers) are distinguished by their tenures into two classes, Meerassoes,

or landed proprietors, and Opprees, or farmers. On the subject of tenures in this part of India, Mr. Elphinstone collected all the information he could obtain from various public officers of great ability who were conversant therewith. "The result of those reports and of my own inquiries," says Mr. E., "is, that a large portion of the Ryots are the proprietors of their estates, subject to the payment of a fixed land-tax to Government; that their property is hereditary and saleable, and they are never dispossessed while they pay their tax, and even then they have, for a long period (at least thirty years), the right of reclaiming their estate on paying the dues of Government. Their land-tax is fixed; but the late Mahratta Government loaded it with other impositions; which reduced that advantage to a mere name. So far however was this from destroying the value of their estates, that although the Government took advantage of their attachment to make them pay considerably more than an Oopree, and though all the Meerassadars were in ordinary cases obliged to make up for failures in the payment of each of their body, yet their lands were saleable, and generally at ten years' purchase. This fact might lead us to suppose that, even with all the exactions of the late Mahratta Government, the share of the Ryot must have amounted to more than half the produce of the land; but experience shows that men will keep their estates, even after becoming a losing concern, until they are obliged to part with them from absolute want, or until oppression has lasted so long that the advantages of proprietorship in better times have been forgotten. The Meerassadars are perhaps more numerous than the Ooprees all over the Mahratta country. In the Carnatic I am informed by Mr. Chaplin that they do not exist at all. Besides Meerassadars they are called Thulkurree about Poona.

"An opinion prevails throughout the Mahratta country, that under the old Hindoo government all the land was held by Meerassees, and that the Ooprees were introduced as the old proprietors sunk under the tyranny of the Mahomedans. This opinion is supported by the fact, that the greater part of the fields now cultivated by Ooprees are recorded in the village books as belonging to absent proprietors, and affords, when combined with circumstances observed in other parts of the Peninsula, and with the light land-tax authorized by Menu, a strong presumption that the revenue system under the Hindoos (if they had an uniform system) was founded on private property in the soil.

"All the land which does not belong to the Meerassees belongs to Government, or those to whom the Government has assigned it. The property of the Zemindars in the soil has not been introduced, or even heard of, in the Mahratta country."

An indefinite number of villages composed a turruf, several of which made a pergunnah, under a Daismook or Zemindar, who corresponds with the Potail of a village. He is assisted by a Daispandee (who answers to the Koolkurnee) and a Daischaugulla. It is universally believed in the Mahratta country that these were all officers appointed by some former government; and it seems probable that they were the revenue officers of the Hindoo Government, and being hereditary, possessed too much knowledge and influence to be displaced by the Mahomedans. These officers still hold the lands and fees originally assigned them as wages, and are still considered as servants of the Government, though the duty they perform is trifling. The Daismook's profits are very great,—about five per cent. on the land as well as on the revenue, and one-twentieth of the collection, besides claims upon the artizans, &c. All these fees are levied by the owners distinct from the Government revenue. Daismooks and Daispandees, as well as Potails and Koolkurnees, sell their

own land and fees, but neither pretends to any property in the rest of the lands. It is thought that they cannot sell their offices (though Potails and Koolkurnees can), and it is even doubtful if they can sell their fees, though they may pawn them.

Formerly, a number of pergunnahs composed a circar, but this division is now disused; and that into pergunnahs and turrufs is not always the real revenue division: to explain this would require an investigation of the complicated system of the Mahrattas, which is now, as far as possible, laid aside.

The Mahratta officers of revenue were the chiefs of a division, called Mamlutdar in a large district, and Camavisdar in a small one. Under them were Turrufdars or Karkoons, and Shaikdars, who had charge, the former of a large, the latter of a small number of villages. The government named the Mamlutdar, who appointed the inferior agents. In some provinces, an officer, called Sirsoobadar, intervened between the Mamlutdar and the Government.

The Mamlutdar raised the revenue of his district in the following manner. At the commencement of the rains, he had an interview with the Potal, who proceeded to his village, to encourage the ryots to cultivate, promising them takauvee (advances from the Mamlutdar), &c. When the harvest was ready to be cut, the Mamlutdar moved out into his district attended by the Potails and Koolkurnees, with their papers containing particulars of the surveys, rates and assessments heretofore paid, the accuracy of which the Mamlutdar is enabled to judge by the knowledge possessed by his Shaikdar; and he forthwith proceeds to settle the revenue of the ensuing season on a consideration of the amount paid in former years, combined with a regard to the actual state of things. The Potal had generally settled with the ryots the share each of them had to bear before this; and if any thing occurred to derange his settlement, he returned to his village to re-consult his ryots. If the Potal rejected the Mamlutdar's offer, and no means of adjustment were found, the Mamlutdar would offer to recur to what seems to have been the original principle in all settlements, namely, for the Government to take half, and leave half to the cultivator.

When the time of payment arrived, the Mhow summoned the ryots, who paid their rent to the Potal, for which a receipt was given by the Koolkurnee. The Potal sent the money, when collected, to the Daismook by the Mhow, and received a receipt from the Mamlutdar. If a ryot refused or was unable to pay his revenue, the Sebundy sent by the Shaikdar to assist the Potal, pressed him for it, confined him in the village chokey, exposed him to the sun, put a heavy stone upon his head, and prevented his eating and drinking until he paid. If this did not succeed, he was carried to the Mamlutdar, thrown into prison or put in irons, and his cattle were sold. This rigorous treatment was seldom necessary to raise the regular revenue; it was more frequently employed in exacting extraordinary taxes, and under the farming system it was frequent and severe. This system was thus conducted:—The office of Mamlutdar, instead of being conferred as a favour on a person of experience and probity, was put up to auction amongst the Peishwa's attendants, for a year, and was then frequently transferred to a higher bidder. The Mamlutdar thus appointed, let his district at an enhanced rate to underfarmers, who repeated the operation till it reached the Potails, who, if they farmed their own villages, became absolute master of every one in it. If the Potal refused to farm the village at the rate proposed, the case was perhaps worse

worse, as the Mamlutdar's own officers undertook to levy the sum determined on with less mercy than the Potail. In either case, the actual state of the cultivation was entirely disregarded: a man's means of payment, not the land he occupied, formed the rule of assessment. Every pretext for fine and forfeiture, every means of rigour were employed, to squeeze the utmost out of the people before the day when the Mamlutdar gave up his charge.

The leading principles of the present revenue system, adopted since our acquisition of the country, are to abolish farming, but otherwise to maintain the native system; to levy the revenue according to the actual cultivation; to make the assessments light; to impose no new taxes, and to do none away unless odious and unjust; and above all to make no innovations, except such as were unavoidable. Thus, instead of Mamlutdars, with very unequal extent of territory and power, the country was placed under five principal officers. The revenue was simplified; the assessments were lighter and better defined; the authorities of the Mamlutdars (placed over compact districts) were limited, and the system of fixed pay and no perquisites was introduced. The duties of the Mamlutdar are to superintend the collection of the revenue, to manage the police, and receive civil and criminal complaints, referring the former to punchayets, and sending up the latter to the collector. The Mahratta practice is the foundation of the systems of all the collectors: the basis for the assessment was the amount paid by the village in times when the people considered themselves to have been well governed, with deductions for diminution of cultivation, or on specific grounds. The amount to be paid is partitioned among the ryots, by the village officers, and if all are satisfied, pottahs are given and the settlement is made. All the collectors kept up the principle of the ryotwar settlement.

The system of criminal justice has been materially altered: under the Mahrattas the administration was vested in the revenue officers, their powers varying with their rank. The right of inflicting punishment was, however, extremely undefined: one potail would flog, fine and put in the stocks for many weeks, and another would not venture to imprison. There was no prescribed form of trial: a principal rebel or a head of banditti would be executed at once, on the ground of notoriety; any Bheel caught in a part where the Bheels were plundering the road, would be hanged immediately. In doubtful cases the chief authority would order some of the people about him to inquire into the affair. The prisoner was interrogated, and if suspicions were strong, he was flogged to make him confess. Witnesses were examined, and a summary of their evidence and the statement of the accused were taken down in writing. In crimes against the state, the prince made or directed such inquiries as he thought proper, and gave such orders as the case seemed to require. Torture was employed to compel confession and disclosure of accomplices. Law was seldom thought of in these trials, except in cases connected with religion, where Shastrees were sometimes consulted: the only rule seems to have been the custom of the country and the magistrate's notion of expediency. The Hindoo law was quite disused. Punishments were cruel and arbitrary: upon the whole, the criminal system of the Mahrattas was in the last state of disorder and corruption.

It might be expected from such a system of criminal justice, and from the impunity with which crimes might be committed, by means of bribery, that the country was a scene of violence and anarchy. "No picture," says Mr. Elphinstone, "could be further from truth. It is of vast importance to ascertain the causes that counteracted the corruption and relaxation of the police, and

and which kept this country in a state superior to our oldest possessions amidst all the abuses and oppressions of a native Government. The principal causes to which the disorders in Bengal have been attributed, are the over population, and the consequent degradation and pusillanimity of the people; the general revolutions of property, in consequence of our revenue arrangements, which drove the upper classes to disaffection and the lower to desperation; the want of employment to the numerous classes, whether military or otherwise, who were maintained by the native Government; the abolition of the ancient system of police, in which besides the usual bad effects of a general change were included the removal of responsibility from the Zemindars; the loss of their natural influence, as an instrument of police; the loss of the services of the village watchmen, the loss of a hold over that class which is naturally disposed to plunder, and in some cases the necessity to which individuals of it were driven to turn robbers, from the resumption of their allowances; the separation of the revenue, magisterial, judicial, and military powers, by which all were weakened; the further weakness of each from the checks imposed on it; the delays of trials, the difficulties of conviction, the inadequacy of punishment, the trouble and expense of prosecuting and giving evidence; the restraints imposed by our maxims on the assumption of power by individuals, which, combined with the dread of the Adawlut, discouraged all from exertion in support of the police; the want of an upper class among the natives, which could take the lead on such occasions; and to conclude, the small number of European magistrates who supply the place of the class last mentioned, their want of connexion and communication with the natives, and of knowledge of their language and character.

“ The Mahratta country presents in many respects a complete contrast to the above picture. The people are few compared to the quantity of arable land; they are hardy, warlike, and always armed till of late years: the situation of the lower orders was very comfortable, and that of the upper prosperous. There was abundance of employment in the domestic establishments and foreign conquests of the nation. The ancient system of police was maintained, all the powers of the state were united in the same hands, and their vigour was not checked by any suspicions on the part of the Government or any scruples on their own. In cases that threatened the peace of society, apprehension was sudden and arbitrary, trial summary, and punishment prompt and severe. The innocent might sometimes suffer, but the guilty could scarcely ever escape. As the magistrates were natives, they readily understood the real state of a case submitted to them, and were little retarded by scruples of conscience, so that prosecutors and witnesses had not long to wait. In their tax system, men knew, that if they were right in substance they would not be questioned about the form; and perhaps they likewise knew, that if they did not protect themselves, they could not always expect protection from the magistrate, whose business was rather to keep down great disorder than to afford assistance in cases that might be settled without his aid. The Mamlutdars were themselves considerable persons, and there were men of property and consideration in every neighbourhood; Enamdars, Jagheerdars, or old Zemindars. These men associated with the ranks above and below them, and kept up the chain of society to the prince; by this means the higher orders were kept informed of the situation of the lower, and as there was scarcely any man without a patron, men might be exposed to oppression, but could scarcely suffer from neglect.”

Our present system of criminal justice differs greatly from the Mahratta practice.

practice. The power of punishing is taken entirely from the Potal, and the Mamlutdar can only fine two rupees and confine for twenty-four hours. According to our practice, a prisoner is formally and publicly brought to trial. He is asked whether he is guilty; if he admits it, pains are taken to ascertain if his confession be voluntary; if he denies it, witnesses are called without further inquiry, and are examined in the presence of the prisoner, who may cross-examine them, and call witnesses in his own defence. If there is any doubt, the prisoner is acquitted; if he is clearly guilty, the Shastree is called on to declare the Hindoo law. It often happens that the law is unreasonable: if the error is on the side of severity, it is modified; when on the side of lenity, it is acquiesced in. In Candeish, a regular jury is generally assembled, who question the witnesses and pronounce on the guilt of the accused.

Mr. Elphinstone thinks that our system is better calculated for protecting the innocent from punishment, and the guilty from undue severity, than for securing the community by deterring from crimes; and he adds that our imprisonment is so carefully divested of all circumstances of terror, that there is nothing in it, except the fetters, likely to make the least impression on a native. "In fact, it appears that the imprisonment ordered by our officers is far from being looked on with dread; and the natives think that, with the regular subsistence and comfortable blankets they get in gaol, they are better off than they would be in their own villages."

The civil administration is treated by Mr. Elphinstone at great length; we think it better, therefore, to reserve this and the remaining topics till next month.

FROM THE CHINESE.

TO THE CHRYSANTHEMUM.*

Fair flower! for whose beauties kind nature united
 Her deep purple shade, and her bright tints of snow;
 In her gold she then deck'd thee, and lastly invited
 Her carnation along the soft surface to glow.

By what hand wert thou flung from Elysium to earth?
 And as thus through the lattice, sweet flower, thou art peeping,
 Must thou waste all thy bloom for a lone maiden's mirth,
 Whilst the sage that should court all thy beauties is sleeping?

What a calm is around—'tis the stillness of heaven;
 All liberty's soul seems to swell in my breast,
 And I feel as if now to my spirit 'twere given,
 To fly to some holier region of rest.

Few—few are the hours from the world I can steal,
 To forget all its cares 'mid the balm of thy breathing;
 Oh, give me on earth nought to see or to feel,
 Through the long endless day, but thy fragrance and wreathing.

* From the English translation of the "Yü-keau-le."

ON THE ERA OF THE BUDDHAS.*

THE Era of Buddha is a subject of as much uncertainty in Tibet, as it is in India and Europe. We learn from Mr. De Körös,† that the different opinions prevalent in Tibet were collected in the sixteenth century by Padma Karpo, a celebrated Lama of Bhutan, who wrote a short disquisition on the subject, which is still extant. The dates then advanced were twelve in number, to which the author of the tract added a thirteenth: the four first of these, according to Mr. De Körös, were those usually followed by writers of the seventh century; but the tenth is at present the date advocated at Lassa. The following are the intervals that have elapsed from the time of Sakya to the year 1825, agreeably to the data furnished by the above-named authority:—

Years.	Years.
1.....4245.	8.....2369.
2.....3971.	9.....2703.
3.....3958.	10.....2660.
4.....3962.	11.....2390.
5.....3123.	12.....2707.
6.....2575.	13.....2883.
7.....2476.	

According to the average of the first four numbers, the existence of Sakya Sinha, or Buddha, dates 2,959 years before Christianity; the average of the last nine is 820 years before our era, which nearly corresponds with that adopted at Lassa, or A. C. 835. Neither of these periods, however, corresponds with those which have been hitherto received from other oriental sources. The date assigned by Padma-Karpo himself, which places Buddha 1,058 years before the Christian era, is nearer that which rests upon Chinese authorities, and which there is great reason to believe refers to an Elder Buddha, one who is called in the Tibetan translation of the *Amera Cosha*, according to Mr. De Körös, Buddha Gan tang Khas-pa, or Buddha, an old and wise man.

The dates of this Buddha's existence, as reported or estimated by various writers, are thus collected:

Abulfazl,	A.C. 1366
Couplet, from Chinese historians,	1036
De Guignes, ditto,	1027
Giorgi,	959
Bailly,	1031
Sir Wm. Jones,	1027
Bentley, on one occasion,	1081
The same, on another,	1004

Of these, Giorgi gives the period of his death, and is therefore not so irreconcilable as he at first appears to be with the other authorities. The author of the history of Cashmir, Kuhlana Pundit, nearly agrees with Abulfazl, placing Buddha 1,332 years before the Christian era.

Klaproth, in his life of Buddha, states the following dates upon the authorities specified:

Jachrig, from a Mongol chronology, as published by Pallas, ... A.C. 991
Japanese

* Abridged from a dissertation on the language and literature of Tibet, &c. in the Quarterly Oriental Magazine of Calcutta, No. VII.

† A native of Transylvania, who has travelled and resided in Tibet. See Asiat. Journ. Vol. XXI, pp. 214, 763.

Japanese Encyclopædia (birth of Buddha),	A.C. 1029
Ditto, his death,	960
Ma-touan Lin, a Chinese historian of the twelfth century,.....	1027
Beizawi,.....	1022

Klaproth himself concurs with Sir Wm. Jones in giving the preference to the year before Christ 1027, not only as resting upon the best Chinese authorities, but because it corresponds with the chronology of the successors of Buddha, as preserved in the books of the Chinese—as shewn by M. Remusat in the *Journal des Savans* for 1821—M. Remusat himself places the death of Buddha 970 years before Christ.

Besides these dates, which for the greater part agree as nearly as could be well expected (and which certainly point to the existence of a Buddha between ten and twelve centuries anterior to the Christian era), there is an equally extensive and consistent series, which bears testimony to the existence of a similar personage—a Buddha, or revival of that legislator, in a more recent period—thus placed :

By the Burmese,	A.C. 546
the Siamese,	544
the Cingalese,	619
the Peguers,	638

and the Chinese writer cited by Klaproth gives as a second date 688

To these may be added, information given by Dhermadhar Brahmachari, who has lately been introduced to public notice as the Raj Guru of Asam, and who is well versed in Bauddha literature. According to him, the Nirvan of Sakyaamani took place in the eighteenth year of Ajâtasatru, and 196 before Chandragupta or Sandrocoptos, the cotemporary of Alexander ; consequently the death of the Bauddha legislator occurred about 520 years before the Christian era.

The near concurrence of these dates, and the extent of country through which they prevail, scarcely permit us to look upon them as altogether fanciful ; and the dissemination of the Bauddha religion, as far as we can trace the imperfect information yet collected, harmonizes better with the latter than the former period : at the same time the former series is equally consistent, and is so far equally entitled to credit. There is no way of reconciling them but by supposing that they relate to different individuals. The Bauddhas enumerate more than one Buddha : according to the Cingalese, as stated by Capt. Mahoney and Dr. Davy, there have been four, and a fifth is to come ; according to the *Hemachandra Cosha*, Sakya Sinha, the Buddha of the present era, was the seventh : there is nothing therefore to militate against the notion that the dates, current chiefly in China and Tibet, relate to one of his predecessors, who perhaps confined his objections to the destruction of animal life, and the divine authority of the Vedas. At the same time nothing further is known of any such prior legislator ; for all the legends gathered by Klaproth, Pallas, and Remusat, from the Chinese, Tibetan and Mongol writers, are referable to the later Buddha, and agree precisely with the traditions of India, Ceylon, and the Eastern archipelago. They relate uniformly to the Buddha named Sakya Sinha, the same with Gautama, the son of Sudhodana and Maya, a man of the military caste, and prince of Magadha or South Behar, the Mo-ko-ti of the Chinese, and Magata-kokf of the Japanese : this reformer appears to have been of a more determined character than his predecessors ; and, by abolishing the distinction of caste, he attacked the Brahmanical hierarchy in their strong hold, and confirmed their overthrow by establishing an order of the

priesthood open to persons of every description. It would appear, therefore, that the Bauddhas of the south have been more consistent than their brethren of the north, and have applied their history and chronology to the same individual; whilst those of China and Tartary refer their legends to one Buddha and their dates to another: at the same time it may be admitted, we are yet scarcely provided with materials to form an unquestionable conclusion, and it will be necessary to this end, that the literature of Tibet on the one hand and that of Ava on the other be further investigated, to determine with satisfaction the date of Buddha, and, which is more important, to elucidate the origin and progress of the Bauddha faith.

Mr. De Kőrös has slightly touched upon this subject, and Remusat and Klaproth have both attempted partially to trace the history of the Bauddha religion. They have added, however, little to what has been effected by former inquirers, particularly by Giorgi, or more properly Pennabella and Desideri, in Tibet, and Kœmpfer and De Guignes in China and Japan; and the original authorities must be had recourse to before the investigation can be undertaken with any confidence.

It is universally admitted that the Bauddha religion originated in India, in Magadha or Behar. In the early centuries of the Christian era, frequent intercourse with the surrounding nations was maintained, having for its object the dissemination of the Bauddha doctrines: the immediate channels to the north and south appear to have been Cashmir and Ceylon.

In the *Paraijka Attakatha*, a celebrated Bauddha work in Pali, composed in Ceylon, it is said, about ten centuries after the death of Buddha, or in the fifth century of the Christian era, it is stated that four chief Sangayanas, or missions, took place after that event. The first, six months afterwards, was to Rajagriha, in Behar, now in ruins; the second, 100 years after the same occurrence, to Visala, or Oujcin; the third was to Patna, or Pataliputra, 218 years from the Nirvana of Buddha; and 236 from the same date a mission on a more extended scale took place, and amongst other countries was addressed to Cashmir and Ceylon.

These dates may not be very accurate, but they are in harmony with other accounts: thus we find the year 250 before Christ assigned by M. Joinville as the date at which Bauddhism penetrated into Ceylon. From that island, the people of Laos assert that they received it, in the third or fourth century before the Christian era; and they maintain that the Siamese acquired the art of writing from them, as well as the language of their holy books. According to De Guignes, the religion of Fo was introduced into China in the sixty-fifth year after Christ.

From these traditions it seems probable enough that the religion of Buddha was transported into Ceylon about the middle of the third century before Christ, and that it shortly afterwards began to spread across the Indian ocean to the east. In Laos and Siam it took early root; but although it continued to be suffered in China, it did not make much way there before the sixth century, when the teacher Dherma, or To-mo, as he is called by the Chinese, fled into China from India: the annals of Japan confirm this occurrence, which they place in 519, and add that the religion of Fo consequently spread through Corea and Japan. The Chinese annals notice an immense influx of foreigners, particularly from Ceylon, about A.D. 527. Mr. Crawford mentions that Brahmans professing a new faith arrived at Bali in 566, and Sir Thos. Raffles states that the sixth and seventh centuries are remarkable in the annals of the east for the surprising emigration of priests and people, bringing with them their idols.

idols. These occurrences are adverted to in the introduction to the Sanscrit and English dictionary; and it is there advanced that the sixth and seventh centuries form probably the period at which the Bauddha religion, if not persecuted, was much depressed, by the ascendancy of other systems in the Peninsula.

The introduction of the Bauddha religion into Cashmir, at the date assigned to it by the authority cited, agrees very well with the view of its extension through the regions of Turkestan and Western Tibet, derived by M. Remusat, in his *Recherches sur les Langues Tartares*, from Chinese historians. According to them the country west of the Lop Lake, extending to Bokhara, and including Khoten, Yarkend, Kashgher, Bishbalik and Bokhara, was filled with the worshippers of Fo, who, with the Hindu alphabetical system, emigrated into Tartary some time anterior to Christianity, and by the fourth century after it formed every where the predominating sect.

With respect to Tibet, now the head-quarters of the faith, there seems reason to conclude that it followed the more western countries in adopting the faith and literature of the Buddhas: the Chinese writers, M. Remusat observes, are unanimous in asserting that up to the fifth century of the Christian era the natives of Tibet, whom they call Kiang and Thang-chang, or founders of the state known in Europe as Tangut, had no letters whatever, and that, even to the end of the sixth, their only religion consisted in assembling once in three years to offer to heaven a sacrifice of sheep and oxen. In opposition to this, however, we have the Chronicle of Tibet by the missionary Pennabell, published by Giorgi, which asserts that the religion of Buddha was introduced by Sam-ton-putra into Tibet in the reign of Tzong-tzong Chambo, in the year of our Lord 60; and that some of the most important missions, which finally established the national belief, took place in the reign of Tri-srong-teu-tzen in the year 225. M. Remusat endeavours to reconcile these differences by supposing that, although the Bauddhas might have made some converts, and erected some temples, in the western parts of Tibet, in the first century of Christianity, yet the greater part of the nation, particularly the inhabitants of the eastern districts, remained in a state of ignorance and barbarism, until the end of the sixth or beginning of the seventh.

In this diversity of opinion, Mr. De Körös comes very opportunely to our assistance, and removes every difficulty by shewing that the chronology of the chronicle is erroneous by seven centuries. A Tibetan annalist, the author of the *Gyel raps salve melong*, who wrote about five centuries ago, states, upon the authority of a Chinese work named *Zhoo-Hoo-kou*, that 1,511 years after Buddha, Namri-Srong-tran, the King of Tibet, was contemporary with Thang Emperor of China, and that Srong-tran Gambo, the son of the Tibetan prince, was contemporary with Taitson, the son of Thang. Srong-tran Gambo, it is universally admitted, introduced the religion of Buddha into Tibet. He was married to the princesses of China and Nepal, who were both educated in the faith of Buddha. His minister, Sem-bo-ta (or a good or excellent Tibetan), was of the same persuasion, and the influence of these persons invited and encouraged Bauddha missionaries from the neighbouring countries, and made it the national religion. Supposing the date of Buddha to have been as usually reckoned in China, or 1,027 years anterior to the Christian era, Namri Srong-tran reigned about 539. His son is said to have enjoyed a long reign, having succeeded at the age of thirteen. He must have patronized Bauddhism, therefore, at the end of the sixth or commencement of the seventh century. This is confirmed by the dates of the Chinese Emperors. Thang, according to

Du Halde, founded a new dynasty about the end of the sixth century; and he was succeeded by Tai-tsong, who began his reign, according to Remusat, in 626, to De Guignes in 649, and to Morrison in 631: these dates, therefore, leave no doubt of the error of Giorgi's chronology, and establish the seventh century for the period at which the religion of Buddha was first domesticated in Tibet.

ON POTAILS.

(From a Correspondent.)

THE head inhabitants of the villages in Central India,—in the Deckhan, and in Mysore, are denominated Potails. The term is now used to designate the head inhabitant of every village, whatever may be the caste of the resident inhabitants or their head. The term was introduced by Sir Thomas Munro; and, under his influence and authority, as commissioner for the revision of the judicial system at Madras, the head inhabitants, by whatever designation known, were appointed village judges, village magistrates, village superintendants of police, and were to be also collectors of the revenue; or where that arrangement could not be adopted, whoever collected the village revenue was to be the village judge and magistrate, in order that the weight and consideration belonging to the collector might be united to the office of judge and magistrate.

In page 179 of the history of the Adawlut, or Judicial System, the author observes: "It is the nature of all influence to extend its limits. The influence of Potails may be insignificant at the first creation of their authority, but the habits of command will imperceptibly give it strength. At present it is little; but nothing should be regarded as unimportant which touches the springs of Government."

The following characters of heads of villages, given by collectors anterior to the project formed in 1816, of giving them, by law, such powers as are to be found in the code of 1816, may lead many to concur with the author of the work alluded to above, as to the effect of the influence such powers will produce; and others, who have the opportunity, to ascertain whether the Potails now abuse the power granted to them, as they appear to have done when they enjoyed power on a less extensive scale.

A collector under the Madras presidency writes, in 1807: "Every head of a village who had a dispute with a neighbouring one, was at liberty, on paying a small sum, to march with his adherents against him, and put him to death if he fell into his hands."

"There is hardly a Potail who cannot muster a party of armed peons at a few hours' notice, for there are few villages which do not either now keep, or which have not of late years kept, an establishment of these men to protect them, not only from an enemy, but at times from the servants of Government. The possession of enam land (land exempt from revenue), attached to the office of Potail, gave rise to endless feuds. One man, aided by a party of peons, drove out his relation and partner, and seized the whole for himself; but he was obliged to be continually on his guard against his rival, who often, after a lapse of several years, surprised and murdered him; and took forcible possession of the enam."

Another collector states, in 1813, that, in the Ceded Districts, the Curnums (or village Registrars) are generally Bramins, "whose superiority over the

the Potails, both in regard to knowledge and influence, is so conspicuous, that it is by no means uncommon to see the Curnum on his way to the cutcherry (collector's office) from his village, accompanied by the Potal, *who is charged with a load of brass pots and other articles of travelling necessaries*, the property of the Bramin : such being the debased condition of many of the Potails, their inaptitude to undertake the management, and to fulfil their engagements to Government, without the aid of the Curnum, may be readily imagined."

Another collector writes, in 1805 :—" I have now the honour to forward the report promised in my letter of the 28th Sept. last, which will perhaps exhibit as melancholy a picture of the sufferings of the lower cultivating class, and of the oppression exercised over them by the Gramatars,* or heads of villages, as ever was recorded. The villages most lightly assessed have of course suffered most by these cormorants ; but the evil, with few exceptions, has been general, and where the Ryot has not been able to meet both the regular demand of the Circar and the illegal one of the Gramatar, he has either been obliged to supply the deficiency by fraud, or to abscond with the refuse of his property to some other district."

In a paper written by Col. Munro, and printed in the Appendix to the Fifth Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Affairs of the East-India Company (page 745), it is stated that districts are divided into villages; under the management of Potails, or head farmers, who are from long habit capable of making the settlement of their respective villages; and the Ryots, from having been long accustomed to be guided by them, readily agree to what they (the Potails) fix or propose, as it is usually what they themselves know to be the proper rent. That every village is in fact a small collectorate, and when the Potal does his duty, the collector has only to confirm what he has already done. That there is perhaps no Curnum who in any one year ever gives a perfectly true statement of the cultivation of his village. That when the ploughing season begins the Potal ascertains what land each Ryot can cultivate; that he permits those who have met with losses to relinquish a part of their land, which he distributes to others who may be willing to take it; and to such as require none he continues their former lands. That the Potails and Curnums of villages are the persons most capable of making the revenue settlements correctly: but that they cannot be trusted because they are cultivators themselves, and have always friends and enemies among the Ryots. That the Potails and Curnums, when they know that the Aumildar, or native collector, diverts part of the public revenue to his own emolument, always follow his example, and thereby augment the outstanding balance. That when private creditors are permitted to seize the property of the Ryots before their rents are paid, it is always to be inferred that they have bribed the Aumildar; and when the Potails are allowed to assess on account of general bonds, it may be concluded that the Aumildar has been guilty of speculation, and that he cannot support the cultivators lest the Potails should inform against him. That their own enmities are the most common source of over-assessment; for one Potal often exaggerates the produce of the village of another, and offers more for it than it is really worth, with the intention of supplanting his rival, and making the Ryots pay the loss. That the Curnums' accounts are always false; that the Ryot is privately encouraged by the Potails to give as much opposition as possible, because they (the Potails), in their turn, all intend to do the same, in the hope that if he (the Ryot) can obtain a reduction of his rent, they may also, under the same pretences, expect the same indulgence.

* Gramatar is the Potal of South Arcot.

indulgence. That in villages where both the poorest and most substantial Ryots are found, the assessment is for the most part unequal; and is always most favourable to the relations of the Potal and to such other Ryots as hold out most stubbornly. That in the case of the village settlement being once fixed, that of the cultivators is greatly facilitated; because the Potails and Curnums, knowing that a certain sum must be levied, give every assistance, except perhaps in a case of a few of their own relations, to make a fair distribution of it. In page 752, Appendix to Fifth Report, Mr. Ravenshaw observes that the lamentable influence of the heads of villages over the lesser Ryots, from whom they have always been in the habit of extorting considerable sums above the Government demand, was a ruinous evil under the late Government, and that the continuance of it in this has certainly contributed to reduce the Ryots to their present state. That the plan of making a distinct settlement with every individual, tends more than any thing to give the lesser Ryots a confidence in those who govern them, independent of the Curnums and heads of villages, at whose mercy they have hitherto lived. That by it the frauds hitherto practised by the Curnums will be in a great degree prevented. It has also been stated officially that the Potails of the Ceded Districts are so ignorant, that they are in almost all cases influenced by the advice of the Curnums, who, in those provinces, are Bramins.

It is provided in page 72, India Papers of 1819, that Potails, where they cannot read or write, may *mark* and seal their decrees as judges, and may mark their awards when members of a village punchayet: it is also provided that the person who collects the revenue shall be the village judge. The native collector, who, under this rule, may frequently be other than the head inhabitant, is liable to dismissal for misdeeds and neglect of duty in his revenue office, and must then resign his judicial offices: so if dismissed from his judicial offices for gross corruption or partiality, or gross neglect as a police officer, or abuse of power as a village magistrate, he must vacate his revenue office. It is also provided that the duties of village judge, village magistrate, and superintendent of village police, shall be annexed to the office of the person "who collects the revenue," even should such person not be a head inhabitant, but the manager on the part of a native holding a lease or grant of the village.—See page 69 of printed Papers presented to the House of Commons in 1819.

C. R.

QUERIES.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR:—Perhaps you will oblige me by affording a corner in your work for the following questions, which some of your readers may be competent to answer:

1. Is it probable that any particulars of Mr. Moorcroft's journeys in Tartary will be given to the public? and where are his papers?

2. Are we likely to receive any account of Mr. Crawford's mission to Siam and Cochin China, from the pen of that gentleman, as intimated in Mr. Finlayson's book?

3. Does Mr. Klaproth intend (and when) to favour the world with a History of China, a prospectus of which he issued several years ago, and for which he procured subscribers' names in England?

Your's, &c.

E.

CHINESE NOVELS.

A GREAT part of the literature of China consists of novels or romances, a species of composition which is peculiarly valuable to foreigners who desire to gain a knowledge of Chinese manners, since its pictures of those manners no other vehicle, if we except the drama, could convey. It is esteemed a condescension beneath the dignity of history to exhibit a portrait of domestic character; and there is no other didactic composition calculated to transmit its traits. The novel or familiar tale, founded upon the events of private life, displays, incidentally, inartificially, and without adulteration, facts which not only acquaint us with national manners, but with the various shades and hues they may have acquired through the lapse of time, or by the transfusion of imported fashions, according to the period in which the works were written.

Several specimens of the Chinese novel have appeared of late years in the European garb. The first volume of the *Asiatic Journal* contains a Chinese tale, translated by Mr. Davis, called "San-yu-low; or, the Three Dedicated Rooms."* In a succeeding volume is given a copious review of a novel (unpublished), translated by Mr. Thoms, entitled "the Affectionate Pair;"† and more recently we noticed a tale in verse, translated by the same author, entitled "Hwa-tsëen, or the Flower's Leaf."‡ M. Abel-Remusat has just made us acquainted with another Chinese novel, already known by name to European scholars, from the notices of the Jesuits, and from the abstract given of it in the appendix to Sir George Staunton's "Narrative of the Chinese Embassy to the Khan of the Tourgouth Tartars;" it is entitled "Yüh-keacoule," or, as M. Remusat writes it, according to the pronunciation of his nation, "Iu-kiao-li."

Whilst we were endeavouring to procure a copy of M. Remusat's translation, which it is surprising should be so scarce in England, a version of that translation into English fell into our hands. This performance is obviously by a person entirely ignorant of the Chinese language, and of the orthography and pronunciation of Chinese words. All the proper names are given according to the French pronunciation, which is sometimes misapprehended: thus the name of the work, which is printed in the first page "Iu-kiao-li," is in the running title throughout the volumes printed "Ju-kiao-li." There occur other slight hallucinations, owing to the defect to which we at first alluded; and we cannot speak of the translation, in other respects, in very favourable terms. We make use of this work, therefore, for want of a better.

M. Remusat has prefixed to his translation a dissertation on Chinese novels, in the form of a preface. He observes, antithetically, that whilst all other Asiatics, influenced by a taste for the marvellous, have disfigured their traditions, and introduced romance into history; the Chinese, on the contrary, are historians even in their romances. "They never exhibit to us princes engaged in combat with genii, all-powerful talismans, and incessant transformations. The persons whom they introduce are men and women, acting naturally within the circle of their passions and their interests. Integrity is seen in contact with intrigue, and honest men involved in the snares of knavery." In this point of view, these romances fill up, he remarks, an important chasm.

No

* Vol. I, pp. 37, 132, 243, and 338.

† Vol. XIII, p. 565.

‡ Vol. XX, p. 402.

No traveller can paint a people so well as they can paint themselves. "One-half of society, too, and by no means that portion most easily known, travellers have scarcely been able to see at all. Little can be really known of the manners and way of thinking of a nation without some acquaintance with its women."

One of the defects of Chinese novels, the minuteness of its details, may, therefore, justly be enumerated amongst its advantages to European readers. M. Remusat compares them, in this respect, to the novels of Richardson. A Chinese novelist produces his effect by reiterated strokes of the pencil. His characters "stand before you, their motives of action are exposed, you hear them speak for themselves, and learn to trace even their minute peculiarities of manners and conversation." Another advantage accruing to the European philosopher, from Chinese novels, arises from the rank of the characters, which are seldom taken from high stations, where the modes of life are more artificial and less characteristic of the nation; but are generally persons of the middling or intermediate classes, such as magistrates, governors of towns, judges, counsellors of state, and private men of letters. The hero of a celebrated romance is a rich druggist, who raises himself to authority by means of his wealth. "Some of these works," says M. Remusat, "more especially merit the title of 'Historical Romances,' the story being founded on the annals of a reign or of an entire dynasty. In these, some real events form the text: princes, magistrates, and commanders, who have really existed, are introduced by name, and made to act according to their recorded character and qualities, mental and personal. In a word they rank with certain productions among ourselves, which are called *historical*, because their authors would not confess that they dealt in fiction." M. Remusat observes, in another place,—

In the greater part of the Chinese romances, every thing is contained within the bounds of the possible and even the probable. We might be tempted to regard most of them as the private memoirs of some particular families; compiled by an accurate and faithful observer. Visits and the formalities of polished statesmen; assemblies, and above all, the conversations which render them agreeable; repasts and the social amusements which prolong them; walks of the admirers of beautiful nature; journeys; the manœuvres of law-suits; literary examinations; and in the sequel, marriage,—form their most frequent episodes and ordinary conclusions. I know a Chinese romance which presents a complete society of men and women, who represent the various relations which spring out of civil life, and who are beheld successively occupying all the situations which in such a state can be experienced. The translation of this romance would render every other work upon Chinese opinions and habits superfluous; but it is unpleasant to be obliged to add, that a great number of passages in the book could not be translated into an European language.

M. Remusat was led to select the novel of "Yü-keou-le," or "the Two Female Cousins" (a copy of which he found in the oriental department of the *Bibliothèque Royale*), from the commendation bestowed upon this tale by two of the Jesuit missionaries. He found in it, he says, "a fable simple and well conceived, an easy and agreeable development, characters skilfully introduced and duly sustained to the end." The leading feature in the work, namely, the love which the hero openly professes towards two women, who, as openly return his affection, and both of whom he eventually marries, however repulsive to European taste, is exactly conformable to Chinese manners, and is therefore no defect in the work. This is, indeed, as M. Remusat remarks, to be transported to another world: "we must go to China to witness bigamy justified by

by sentiment, and the most exacting of passions accommodate itself to participation and arrangement, without losing its force or its vivacity." M. Remusat adds the following playful remarks :—

A man sentimentally loving two women at once, is a monster only to be found in the extremity of Asia. In the West two simultaneous passions cannot be endured ; even when successively experienced, their admission into a romance is a point of some difficulty. Writing as a novelist, rather than a moralist or a philosopher, I may be allowed to dwell upon a few of the advantages which a writer may derive from the Chinese mode of thinking. In the first place it is thereby easy to make every one happy at the end of the tale, without having recourse to the hopeless depressions, and fatal consumptions, which European scribes are obliged to have recourse to, in order to dispose of a supernumerary heroine, whom our fastidious notions will allow neither to surmount nor survive a misplaced predilection. The Chinese process would have spared many tears to the *Corinna* of De Stael, and to the *Clementina* of Richardson, and have saved much lively regret to the indecisive Oswald, and possibly also to the virtuous Grandison himself.

The learned French translator has, moreover, inserted in his preface some judicious reflections upon the poetry which is interspersed throughout the novels of the Chinese, and upon the monotony of its images and embellishments ; he has also treated of the peculiarities of the style, the varieties of names and titles, the modifications of Chinese politeness, the character of Chinese metaphors, and other topics, which initiate the reader into the arcana necessary to afford a relish for this department of the literature of China. We hasten, however, to the tale.

In the reign designated by the epithet *Universal Honesty* (from A.D. 1436 to 1450) there lived a learned magistrate, whose family name was Pae ; his surname was Heuen, and his name of honour Tac-heuen. For political reasons, he had withdrawn from court, and lived at Nan-king in retirement and learned ease : his only gratifications were derived from wine* and poetry. He had attained his fortieth year and had no son, which was a great affliction to him ; but he had a daughter of exquisite beauty : " her eye-brows resembled the autumn willow-leaf, and her eyes were like the crystal of the autumnal fountains." The qualities of her mind were still more extraordinary ; and at the age of fifteen, " she might have ranked with the first literary characters of the empire." Hwān-yūh (that was the lady's name) was fond of poetry, and very soon excelled in it.

A revolution having taken place at court, by the accession of a new emperor, Pae was made master of the ceremonies of the first class, and recalled to the capital, whither he proceeded with his daughter. He there formed a select circle of friends, fond, like himself, of wine and poetry ; " and they amused themselves in expatiating upon the beauties of willows and flowers."

Upon one occasion, whilst he was musing over some pots of the Kō-sih-keuē-hwa (*Chrysanthemum odoratum*) he was visited by Gō (his brother-in-law), a doctor of the imperial academy, and Sze and Yang, two imperial inspectors-general. After some conversation, the four friends began to compose verses on the flowers before them. The cups had gone freely round, and Pae had been compelled to take so large a share, that he was unable to bear his part in verse-making, and fell asleep. His daughter, hearing of this, dexterously supplied him, by means of a servant, with some verses of her own, which, upon comparison

* By which it must not be understood that he was addicted to intemperance : cups of wine are introduced amongst the Chinese as concomitants of, and provocatives to, poetical effusions.

parison with those of the guests, bore away the palm. Pae confessed who the author was, and all were surprized at her talents, especially Yang.

Yang had a son (not remarkable for brilliancy of parts), and he resolved to get him married, if possible, to Pae's paragon of a daughter. Whilst he was perplexing himself how to effect his object (for Pae was somewhat self-willed), an astrologer, named Leau-ta-ming, introduced himself, by virtue of a letter of recommendation from a fellow minister; and Yang forthwith communicated to him his views respecting his son, and prevailed upon the astrologer to act the go-between.* Leau accordingly waited upon Pae, and uttered so many encomia upon young Yang, that Pae (though suspicious of a trick) resolved to see the youth. His brother-in-law, Gō, to whom he mentioned the occurrence, agreed to invite the Yangs to an entertainment at which Pae was to be present; and old Yang, full of glee at the apparent success of his scheme, hastens with his son to the scene of trial; taking the precaution to advise the young gentleman (lest he should expose his ignorance) to parry any request to compose verses by replying: "in the presence of my father, how should I presume to take such a liberty?" The result may be easily conjectured; the stupidity of the son was apparent, and his parrot-like quotation of the above words exposed him to ridicule and contempt.

Old Yang, however, blinded by partiality, thought otherwise, and subsequently asked Pae's daughter formally in marriage for his son; he received a refusal, which so mortified and irritated him that he contrived that poor Pae should be recommended to the emperor to go on a perilous embassy to Tartary.

Pae was soon aware of the intrigue to which he was to attribute this honour; he set out, however, upon his journey, leaving his daughter under the protection of her uncle Gō, who soon after took her away from the capital, where she was exposed to the artifices of Yang, and placed her with his own daughter at his house at Nan-king. This young lady's name was Woo-yen, and Dr. Gō recommended that Hwān-yūh should pass as her younger sister, and assume the name of Woo-keou.

Dr. Gō, having formed one of a party of magistrates, who made an excursion from Nan-king to the temple of the Valley of Immortals to see the plum-trees in blossom, observed the following verses "lightly traced as if by a flying dragon," on one of the walls:

With his body at ease, and his mind tranquil, moderate in his wishes, the poet filled this gallery with the fruits of his fancy. The scent of the flowers delighted and betrayed away my soul. No language can impart the illusion which they have breathed over me. Their whiteness awakens a thousand vague thoughts. The faint light of the moon makes me think of marriage. This moment methinks I behold a troop of damsels before my eyes. My mistress is the blossom of the peach-tree, and her companions the branches of the willow.

These verses were subscribed with the name of Sze-yew-pac of Nan-king. Gō read them over and over with admiration, and took immediate measures to discover the person of the author, for he already conceived a plan of obtaining him as a husband for his niece. Gō found him to be a student of the city college: and as the young gentleman proves the hero of the piece, we quote the portrait of him: "his cap and clothes were simple, but he was as beautiful as the jasper in a crown, and brilliant as a ruby. He seemed to have been formed of the air of the mountains and rivers. His mind, like a glittering ornament,

* Matches in China are generally brought about by the intervention of persons who act the part of go-between, which is a profession both honourable and lucrative.

ornament, was worthy of his person." He was twenty years of age, and but just out of his three years' mourning for the death of his mother, who left him an orphan.

Gō employed a female go-between, who waited upon Sze-yew-pae, and was astonished to find that he looked coldly on the proposal. He wished to see the lady, however, and accordingly stationed himself near Gō's garden. Presently he saw Woo-yen approach, and as he concluded this was the lady referred to, he was heartily glad he had seen her before he engaged himself, for she bore the same relation in respect to attractions to her cousin as "a magpie to a dove." Sze was apprehensive of displeasing a man of such influence as Gō; he therefore pretended he had not seen the lady, when the go-between visited him again, and firmly refused, on the score of humility, to seek an alliance with so high a family.

Gō, when the result was communicated to him, concluded that the old go-between had mismanaged the affair; and he consulted a fellow student of Sze, who offered to conduct the negotiation.

The new negotiator, however, met with as little success as his predecessor; Sze excused himself, on account of the importance of the subject, the risk of lightly undertaking such an engagement, &c.

Gō was so exasperated at the refusal, that he flew into a rage, and actually wrote to the examiner at the college to dismiss poor Sze (who had attained the degree of bachelor) from the rank he enjoyed. Le, the examiner, prevailed upon the principal of the college to expostulate with Sze, and endeavour to reconcile him to the match, his rejection of which had given so much umbrage to Gō. All, however, was to no purpose: the young bachelor resolutely persisted in his refusal. Whereupon Le, the examiner, notified to the college that Sze had proved intractable, obstinate, confident, vain, proud, and uncivil; and he was forthwith erased from the list of candidates. Thus, says a Chinese poet, "Three-parts of obstinacy and seven of imprudence ferment together to form the character of a poet."

The tale now narrates the return of Pae from his embassy, and the promotion of Yang, his enemy. Gō was also advanced to be a superintendant of the literary examinations at the imperial college. When the latter related the affair of Sze-yew-pae, so far from partaking of his brother's anger, Pae entertained a high opinion of the young man's firmness.

Whilst Sze was consoling himself in his disgrace with drinking, and commemorating the beauties of willows and flowers, he received a message from his uncle, an inspector-general of the province of Ho-nan, who requested him to come and live with him.

An incident on the road brought Sze-yew-pae acquainted with the magical powers of a certain hermit, whom he visited in order to learn his fortune. Upon inquiry he was told by the hermit that the temple in which he dwelt was built by a person named Pae, as the means of obtaining a progeny, and that he consequently had a daughter, the description of whose charms and talents inflames our hero. He was told that the best mode of obtaining access to the lady was to address verses to her, but that her taste, as well as her father's, was fastidious. Accident brought him in company with two young men, who were composing verses to gain the affections of a beauty, whom he discovered to be no other than Pae's daughter, mentioned by the hermit. They told him the young lady had made a vow that she would marry the person who could vie with her in poetry, and write a piece corresponding in rhyme to some stanzas of her own upon "the willows of spring." Sze

struck

struck off at once two copies of verses in succession conformable to the conditions, and resolved to accompany the two other suitors to the lady's residence, leaving his uncle in the lurch.

Meanwhile the two strangers began to perceive that they had plotted their own ruin by their communication to Sze. One of them, Wang, determined therefore to counterwork him; and bribed Pae's porter to substitute other verses for those he should receive from Sze and his companion Chang.

The reader will already have surmised that the young lady is their old acquaintance Hwän-yü. Pae had in fact retired into the country owing to indisposition, with a nephew, of fifteen, whom he had adopted as his son, though his understanding was weak.

Pae, when he read the verses attributed to Sze-yew-pae, was disgusted; but admired those which bore the signature of Chang. The young lady was likewise delighted with them; and Pae determined to invite the author, and try his capacity, at which news Sze was confounded. Chang was near discovering himself to be an ignoramus, when, on being required to produce another poem on the "willows," he wrote out from memory the other copy of verses composed by Sze. This trick disarmed Pae of suspicion, and Chang left in high glee. He reflected, however, that he might be subjected to further trials, and therefore determined to detain Sze near him.

Pae now proposed that Chang should educate his nephew, and a close intercourse took place between Pae and his future son-in-law. In order that he might have a supply of verses, Chang prevailed upon Sze to write a collection, which he performed with ease, and accident enabled Chang to impose them upon Pae as his own.

Meantime the young lady was curious to get a sight of her lover, whom her servant had described as extremely ugly; and in her efforts to gain her object she mistook Sze for him, but of course thought he had been slandered as to his personal qualifications. The maid went to Sze, and interrogating him, found that he was the (supposed) author of the unfortunate verses, which had excited so much ridicule. He gave her his genuine verses for her mistress's inspection.

When Hwän-yü cast her eyes upon the manuscript, she found that the stanzas were the same as those of Chang; she readily penetrated the fraud, and prepared to take measures accordingly.

In the meanwhile Mr. Yang, the inspector-general, travelling near, paid a visit to his quondam friend Pae; and during the engagement of the family, a correspondence takes place between Sze and Hwän-yü, which reveals to both the tricks they had been played. Fearful of the consequences of too early a discovery, Sze, by advice of his mistress, quits the place, with the intention of taking up his residence with her uncle, Gō. In his peregrination he met an acquaintance, named Sze-yeaou-tae, whom he made a confidant of all his affairs, and who advised him to get a letter of introduction to the lady's father from her uncle at the capital, although he knew that Gō was still in the country. This deception Sze-yeaou-tae employed for objects of his own, as he had cherished hopes of Miss Pae himself. When Yew-pae was gone, Yeaou-tae set off to Dr. Gō's, where he represented himself as Yew-pae's younger brother, and strove to exasperate Gō (supposing that Hwän-yü had really been his daughter) by stating Yew-pae's intention respecting Miss Pae. Gō was, however, delighted, and told Yeaou-tae (thus made the dupe of his own artifice) that his daughter was in reality the person whom Yew-pae was now smitten with. Yeaou soon bethought himself that he might still convert the incident to his advantage; and professing himself actuated by a desire to promote

promote his brother's interest, he procured a letter of introduction to Pae from his relation, promising that Yew-pae should come and strike his forehead at the threshold of Gō's door. By a fortunate accident, the letter spoke only of "young Sze," without addition of the surname.

He forthwith set out for Pae's dwelling, where Chang still kept his footing, upon the strength of the verses he had obtained from Sze-yew-pae. Pae gave Yeaou-tae a good reception, for the latter was a young man of good air : in short, "all his merit lay in the five externals." When Hwān-yūh heard of the visit, and observed the name of "Sze" on the visiting card, she concluded the person was Sze-yew-pae, who had been originally recommended by her uncle, whose letter introduced the present visitant. Chang fell at first into the same mistake; and Pae was fully impressed with the belief that it was the same individual who had been formerly selected by his brother-in-law.

The *dénouement* of all these perplexities involves the discovery that Chang was a pretender to poetry and not the author of the successful verses, and that Sze-yeaou-tae was an impostor. The act of knavery was traced to the porter, who confessed the crime and the author of it; and Pae, through vexation at the injustice with which Sze-yew-pae had been treated, fell dangerously ill.

A series of accidents befel Sze-yew-pae in his journey towards the capital. A romantic adventure brings him into an acquaintance with a blooming youth named Lo-meng-le, to whom he imparted the object of his journey, and the name of his mistress. This blooming youth was, in reality, no other than a female. The tenderest feelings of friendship soon grew up between them, and at length Lo confessed that he had a twin sister, exactly like himself, who had seen Sze in the garden, and "could not prevent herself from thinking of the fall of the plums," i. e. the season of marriage. Yew-tae was very well disposed to take opportunity by the forelock, and, suspending his journey, to "conclude the business immediately." But Lo recommended him to proceed to the capital.

On his way, whilst he was recreating his imagination with the thought of this double marriage, he passed his uncle, by whose servant he was recognized. Sze visited his uncle at his mansion, was graciously received, and adopted as his son. He forthwith made his new parent acquainted with his principal adventures, and it appeared that Sze's uncle had been the fellow-collegian of Pae.

Under the auspices of this relation, Sze went to the capital, and obtained successive literary honours; at length, at the general examination, he gained the very highest class, and was placed on the list of doctors. His advancement excited the envy and enmity of two disappointed candidates, by whose secret influence, Sze was nominated a judge in the province of Ch'ih-keang, to get him out of the way. Before he set out for his province, Dr. Gō arrived at the capital, who, meeting with Sze-yew-pae, spoke to him of his brother, Sze-yeaou-tae. This led to an *eclaircissement*: Sze-yew-pae found that he had been duped by his pretended friend, and also that Pae's daughter was no other than the lady he was enamoured of; and that he had travelled a hundred *le* to solicit what he refused when offered to him. In his way to the province of Ho-nan, his birth-place, to offer a propitiatory sacrifice to his ancestors, he called at the residence of his young friend Lo-meng-le, but the family had left their mansion, and the account given of this youth appeared mysterious, though he did not yet perceive that this person was a lovesick lady in disguise.

We now return to Pae and his daughter: they were visited by Mrs. Lo, (who proves to be Pae's sister) and her daughter, the lady who had captivated Sze as master Lo-meng-le. Pae, who had heard of Sze-yew-pae's success, wished to find him out, for the purpose of securing him for a son-in-law; but not knowing where to seek him, as "the print of his footsteps had disappeared from the surface of the waves," he resolved to visit the Western Lake, in the province of Chih-keang, which was generally frequented by all the poets and wits of the empire;"—the Chinese *Lakists*. Mrs. Lo begs he will leave his daughter to her care, and in return for this office, requests her brother to look out for a husband for Miss Lo, who not only understood embroidery, carpet-making, and needle-work in general, but had a taste for literature, and made verses.

The two fair cousins, left to themselves, soon communicated to each other their respective knowledge regarding our hero Sze-yew-pae. So far from experiencing the jealousy of European damsels at discovering that he was an object of their equal love, "from that moment the two cousins felt their mutual esteem and affection redoubled."

Whilst the young ladies were thus solacing themselves, their lover was on his way to the house. On his arrival, finding that Pae was at the Western Lake, he determined to follow him thither. Now it so happened that Pae, recollecting that his old acquaintance Yang was the governor of Chih-keang province, and fearing some impediment to his journey if his name was known, changed it to Hoang-foo, and passed for a private person; so that Sze's inquiries after Pae (whose person he did not know), on his arrival at the lake dedicated to wine and poetry, were as fruitless as those of Pae respecting Sze.

The latter, having visited Wang, the governor, was immediately fixed upon by him as a husband for his daughter. Sze declined the honour on account of his engagement with Miss Pae; but Wang, finding out the pseudo-poet Chang, who had resorted to the Western Lake, to improve his fancy, employed him to break off the match. Chang accordingly called upon Sze-yew-pae, and supposing he knew nothing of the state of Pae's family, ventured to assert that Miss Pae was dead; and after a decent time, endeavoured to reconcile him to Yang's offer. Sze, penetrated with grief, refused it: and Wang, to shew his resentment, oppressed Sze, in his capacity of judge, with the most difficult cases, and annoyed him by reversing his decrees, &c. until Sze was compelled to resign his post of judge. Leaving the place, and wandering through the country, he accidentally met with the *Hermit of Gratitude*, who, by his power of divination, told him that he should gain a high literary rank, and marry two ladies related to each other; and he directed him to proceed to a place called Kan-ying.

Sze, concealing his real name under that of Lew, went to the place mentioned, where he met with Pae, and in the course of conversation they mutually made inquiries concerning each other. This leads to an amusing series of *equivoques*. The two become extremely intimate; at length Pae determines to offer both his daughter and niece in marriage to Lew; and as the latter was struck with the accordance of this circumstance with the hermit's prediction, and moreover considered that of his two mistresses, one was *non existens* and the other *non apparens* (or, as he expressed it, one was a broken lute, and the other a lost pearl), he closed with the proposal. Pae returned home to arrange the affair, and was followed by Lew, who, in the mean time, was nominated by the emperor to a post appertaining to the court, which he should have had

had instead of being sent to Chih-keang, through the devices of his enemies : another accomplishment of the hermit's prophecy.

The elevation of Sze, or Lew, was a thunderstroke to his foes, Yang and Chang, who bestirred themselves to repair the effect of their ill offices by every means in their power. Yang overwhelmed Sze with kindness, and Chang waited upon him, and confessed penitentially the false report he had given of Miss Pae's death. Sze, though overjoyed at the news, was somewhat embarrassed, owing to his new engagement. He, however, determined to write to Hoang-foo (or Pae), candidly telling him his circumstances.

Let us now pay a visit to the young ladies : during the absence of Pae, they received a letter from Dö, and another from the uncle of Sze ; both recommending Sze-yew-pae as a husband to Miss Pae. In the midst of their felicitations, Pae arrived and communicated the news of the new marriage project, which "stupified" the ladies. The letters were read, and seemed to shake Pae's purpose ; till Mrs. Lo declared for Lew, and all the entreaties of Dr. Gö, who came in the nick of time, were unable to move Pae's inflexibility. At length the repentant Chang arrived with news of Sze's advancement, and a letter addressed by him (as Chang supposed) to Hoang-foo. Pae took the letter, under pretence that Hoang-foo was his relative, and therein read the obstacles to the union he was so intent upon.

We are now informed that Lo-meng-le had formerly despatched a note to Sze-yew-pae desiring him to inquire at Pae's house for news of his young friend and mistress. This note fell into the hand of Sze-yeaou-tae, who, provoked at another marriage being offered to Sze-yew-pae, at first thought of again trying to supplant him. At length he decided upon serving him, and endeavouring thereby to obliterate the memory of his former conduct. Hereby Sze-yew-pae recovered a clue to his other mistress. He now set off to Pae's village, but was perplexed how to act : he wished to call upon Hoang-foo, in the character of Lew, and upon Pae as Sze ; and he learned that Hoang-foo and Pae were relatives, and lived near each other, which might lead to a discovery of his deception.

He first paid his visit to Pae as Hoang-foo ; for by the precautions of the latter, he was conducted to his house. Here, Sze (or Lew) explained that the lady *rediviva*, whom he now proposed to marry, was Pae's daughter, and that his own name was Sze. Pae, overjoyed, suspended his own discovery, to give further scope to the young doctor's embarrassment, and declared his readiness to give way to Pae. All was at length disclosed, amidst the laughter of both parties ; and Sze-yew-pae found his other mistress and his friend in the person of Miss Lo. The nuptials took place soon after, and the two young ladies, (for Sze married them both) clothed in golden stuffs and ornamented with precious stones, appeared like "daughters of the king of the immortals." Chang and Tze-yew-tae were included in the number of persons invited to the banquet, and all matters were adjusted to general satisfaction.

Such is the tale of Yüh-keou-le : it is more abundant in incident and interest than Chinese novels in general. Its grand defect is a total want of discrimination in the characters.

ACCOUNT OF THE MISMEES.

THE following particulars of the tribes settled about the sources of the Brahmaputra, and in the Bor Kamti country, to the eastward of Asam, is from the *Calcutta Government Gazette*.

The Mismees, who inhabit the country upon the banks of the Brahmaputra, towards the commencement of its course, are collected in small but frequent villages, the houses of which are built along the steep faces of the mountains, in such a manner, that the rock forms a side of the mansion, and supports one end of the rafters of the floor, the other and outer extremity resting upon wooden posts: the space beneath the floor is occupied by their fowls and cattle. Besides hogs and their own hill cattle, individuals of wealth have in store for eating, the small cattle of Asam, and the chowri-tailed ox of Tibet (*bos grunniens*); young dogs are also held in estimation. Each chief kills an animal in succession, and invites his neighbours, so that a continual round of feasting is kept up amongst them, and a record of these entertainments is preserved in the skulls of the cattle, which are blackened and hung in rows round the interior of their houses until the death of the head of a family, when these memorials of his wealth and liberality are heaped upon his grave, and surrounded with a palisade. The vegetable diet of the Mismees consists chiefly of Indian corn and a small grain called bubissia: they also cultivate small quantities of a fine white rice. Their dress consists of a piece of a thick coarse cotton cloth, which they have no notion of shaping into a garment, and all their better clothing comes from Asam and Tibet. They are exceedingly uncleanly, and rarely, if ever, have recourse to water for the purposes of ablution. The Mismees work rudely in iron and brass; but their utensils are mostly of copper, and are obtained from the Lama's country, with which they keep up an active trade. They bring from thence smoking pipes, straight swords, dyed woollens, beads, rock salt, and chowri-tailed cows, in exchange for which articles they export musk, various skins, a bitter medicinal root, some ivory, and other articles. They formerly added to the list slaves captured in Asam. The pipes are commonly inscribed with Chinese characters, and they, as well as the swords and beads, are probably the manufacture of China. The Mismees on the heads of the Dihong, as well as those along the Brahmaputra, and the Abors at the sources of the Dibong, all trade with Lama Des, or the country of the Lama of Lassa.

Bor Kamti is a country situated beyond the Langtan mountains, which give rise to the Bor Dehing, or southern arm of the Brahmaputra. The south-east portion of the Langtan mountains, covered with snow, is visible from Sadiya. After taking a south-easterly bend, in which the range nearly reaches the Irawadi, it runs southwards, parallel with that river, nearly to Bhanmoh. Bor Kamti therefore lies along the upper part of the course of the Irawadi, being a province of Moonkong, or Mogoun, and tributary to the Burman Phokun of the latter. It is separated on the east from China, and on the north from Tibet, by lofty mountains covered with snow; although accessible from the south by the course of the Irawadi, the river here is not navigable. The mountains are inhabited by the Khunoong Mismees, who trade with both China and Tibet. They find silver in large quantities in the north-east, and iron in great abundance in the south-east parts of their mountains: of the iron they fabricate the Kamti dhaos, which are held in high estimation. The

Kamtis

Kamtis are said to have come from that part of Sham which is situated E. or S. E. of Moon-kong, or Mogoun.

Considerable light has also been thrown of late upon the sources of the Irawadi, which is the more important at present, as now that the Sanpo cannot be considered as the same with the Brahmaputra, the *Savans* of the continent revert to D'Anville's supposition, and identify it with the river of Ava. The Irawadi, however, takes its rise apparently much to the south and west of where the Sanpo is lost in the Jesuits' maps; and its most northern branch, the Toonong, rises nearly in the same parallel with the heads of the Dehing, and at no great distance from them.

The following particulars respecting the same subject appear in a subsequent number of the Gazette :

We learn that an attempt has lately been made to prosecute the inquiry along the Brahmaputra, towards its source, which succeeded in penetrating amongst the mountains, for five or six days' march, beyond the Brahma Koond, into the country of the Meezhoo Meesmee tribe, and within four days' journey of the first Jama village. At the point at which the party arrived, strong grounds of suspicion arose, with regard to the intentions of one of the mountain chiefs, and their strength being judged insufficient for their security, it was thought advisable to fall back into the district of the Tacen Meesmees, whose conduct entitled them to implicit confidence. We trust that this check will not be suffered to suspend the progress of discovery in so highly interesting a career. We hope to be able to give some particulars hereafter of the route pursued on this occasion.

NAVIGATION BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND ASIA,

*Including the East-Indies, China, the Mauritius, Timor, New Holland, and the South-Sea Islands.**

Years.	British.		Foreign.		Total.	
	Inwards.	Outwards.	Inwards.	Outwards.	Inwards.	Outwards.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1787 ...	27,741	24,537	400	380	28,141	24,917
1790 ...	27,122	26,408	—	—	27,122	26,408
1802 ...	65,718	61,500	835	—	66,553	61,500
1817 ...	80,686	109,404	—	2,938	80,686	112,342
1822 ...	68,169	86,912	—	1,348	68,169	88,260
1825 ...	77,311	101,198	—	2,171	77,311	103,369

* From Mr. Moreau's "Past and Present State of the Navigation of Great Britain."

DR. FREYTAG'S EDITION OF THE *HAMĀSA*.

THE *Hamāsa*, of which the first part, with an excellent commentary by *Tabrizī*, is now published,* is a justly celebrated collection of ancient Arabic poems, many of them being attributed to authors who existed before the time of *Muhammad*. This collection, which comprises more than 800 poems of various lengths, is divided into ten books; the first book only being properly called *Hamāsa*, which word the commentator *Almarzūkī*, as well as the author of the *Kāmūs*, explains by another word meaning valour, and *Tabrizī* by one denoting fortitude: the second book is that of elogies; the third, of ethics; the fourth, of the beauties of women and the love of them; the fifth, of satire; the sixth, of guests; the seventh, of descriptions or attributes; the eighth, of travelling and drowsiness; the ninth, of narrations; and the tenth, of the censure of women.

Antecedent to this publication, Alb. Schultens had printed some poems of the *Hamāsa*; but the whole is too choice a collection not to be desired throughout by Europeans of the present age: and the accomplishment of this task, which Dr. Freytag has undertaken, arduous as it is, not only to print correctly the original text with *Tabrizī's* commentary and historical illustrations, but also to give a Latin translation, will serve greatly to extend our acquaintance with Arabic poetry, as well as with the customs and character of the Arabs. The verses selected in the compilation of this work, are not so much the production of the professed poet, as the effusions of various persons of various ages, whom circumstances could excite to use the true language of poetry: and the poems seem to have been generally the immediate consequences of striking events. They are, too, the productions of original poets in a most copious and energetic language, where the radical meanings of the words used, as well as the peculiar application of them, would engage the attention of the Arabians: an advantage which can be but partially enjoyed in mixed dialects, where the imports of words are usually limited to their common acceptations. In Arabic poetry, a verse may often have various, yet even appropriate significations, according as the general sense of some word, regard being had to the root, is intended, or a peculiar acceptation of it. This greatly facilitates allusion, and opens a wide field to the play of the imagination in those who comprehend well the language; but it renders truly difficult the transmission of the Arabian poets' conceptions into other tongues. With the customs, too, and many other things alluded to in these poems, Europeans are often not acquainted. These are hinderances of no little magnitude to the right understanding, by Europeans, of Arabic poetry; and without a commentary they cannot, in most cases, accomplish a faithful translation of it: as far as regards the *Hamāsa*, however, every explanation which can be desired by the European scholar, is now likely to become easy of access by this publication of the text itself along with the scholiast of *Tabrizī*; and those who read not the original, may gain an acquaintance with its import by means of the Latin translation intended subsequently to be given.

The collecting of the poems is attributed to one who was himself a celebrated poet. The Arabian biographer, *Ibn Khallikān*, speaking of *Abu Tamām Habīb*, son of *Aus*, says that he was a famous poet, the unequalled of his age

* *Hamasæ Carmina, cum Tabrizii scholiis integris, indicibus perfectis, versione Latinâ et commentario perpetuo, primùm edidit G. W. Freytag, Dr. Professor linguarum orientalium in universitate Borussia Rhenanâ. Textus Arabici pars prima. Sumptibus auctoris. Bonnæ, typis Regiis. 1826.*

age in the splendour of his diction, the richness of his verse, and the beauty of his method. To him also belongs the book of the *Hamāsa*, which, by the goodness of his choice, evinces the copiousness of his learning and the solidity of his judgment. He was, moreover, the author of another collection, called by him *Fuhūl-ush-shu'arā* (princes of poets), in which he assembled a great number of poets who had existed in the time of ignorance (that is, before *Muhammad*), in *Hadhrāmūt*, and after the mission of *Muhammad*: as well as of a book of selections from poets. In recollection he was unrivalled; so that he is said to have kept in memory 14,000 Arabic poems of the sort of verse called *rajaz*, besides odes and short pieces. He wrote verses in praise of the Khalifs, and obtained rewards from them. When he recited to *Abu Dulaf Alijī*, a celebrated commander under *Almāmūn* and *Almu'tasam*, some poem of his, *Abu Dulaf* was so delighted that he gave the poet 50,000 dirhems, saying at the same time, "by God, it is beneath thy verse:" then he said, "by God, there is nothing so beautiful as this except thy elegy on *Muhammad*, son of *Hamīd Attūsī*," which he described, and said, "I wish to God thou hadst composed it on me." The poet replied, "be myself and family devoted for the *Amīr*! certainly I shall be his forerunner (to death):" the other answered, "but he never dies who is commemorated in this poem." The birth of *Abu Tammām* is variously recorded to have happened in the year of the *hijra* 190, or 188, or 172, and his death in 231 or 228.

The same biographer supplies us, likewise, with some account of *Abu Zakarīa Yahyā At-tabrīzī*, whose commentary on the *Hamāsa* Dr. Freytag is editing. Speaking of him, the biographer says, that he studied under *Abu-l-Alā Alma'arī* and other renowned masters; that he had a perfect knowledge of grammar, the meanings of words, &c.; that he wrote commentaries on many works, and, among others, three on the *Hamāsa*, namely, a greater, a middle one, and a less. This author was born in 421 of the *hijra*, and died in 502.

The writer of these remarks possesses an ancient copy of the *Hamāsa*, with the notes of *Abu Ali Ahmad Almarzukī*, which are less copious than those of *Tabrīzī*, and antecedent, as is shewn by the reference of the latter to them: but many other learned men have thought the *Hamāsa* so deserving of their attention, as to write commentaries on it. *Tabrīzī*, in his preface, as given by Dr. Freytag, says, the poems of them (the Arabs) are multitudinous, and the chiefs of language as well as the sages of verse have selected the choicest of them; but of all they have thus chosen, the selection of the *Hamāsa* is among the most excellent. The Arabs also said, that *Abu Tammām*, in his selection of the *Hamāsa*, exhibited more of the poet than in his own compositions. The history of his forming the selection, as well as of *Tabrīzī's* commentaries, is thus related:—

Abu Tammām made a journey to *Abdullāh ibn Tahir*, who was then in *Khurāsān*, and wrote verses in his praise; but it was the practice of *Abdullāh* to reward no poet unless *Abu-l-Amaithal* and *Abu Sa'id Addharīr* approved of him: *Abu Tammām*, therefore, addressed himself to these two, and began to recite to them a certain poem, on hearing the beginning of which they censured it; having, however, prevailed on them to examine the poem throughout, they were so well satisfied with other parts of it, as to present it to *Abdullāh*; and they received from him for the poet a thousand dinars. From *Khurāsān* the poet returned towards *Irāk*; and on his arrival at *Hamadan*, *Abu-l-Wafā ibn Salama*, thinking it a blessing to receive him, prevailed on him to be his guest, and shewed him great respect. Whilst he was there, a great snow fell, which blocked up the ways, and arrested all passengers. Though this hinderance

grieved

grieved *Abu Tammām*, yet it rejoiced his friend; who said to him, "familiarize thyself to the place; this snow will not be removed for some time." *Abu-L-Wafā* then brought the poet to his library, which the latter began to inspect, occupied himself in it, and compiled five books on poetry; of which were the *Hamāsa* and *Wahshiyāt*, these (the latter) being long poems.

As to the book of the *Hamāsa*, it was preserved with such care in the treasures of the family of *Salama* as to be brought forth to no one, till reverses befel them, when a certain man of *Dīnūr*, named *Abu-L-Awādhil*, got possession of it and conveyed it to Isfahan; where the learned turned their attention to it so much as to neglect all other works of the like kind. The fame of it spread not only among the learned of that place, but also among their friends; and many wrote explanations of it: some, indeed, proceeded but little in the matter: some attended only to the pointing (or correct reading) of certain places, without adducing the meanings: some cited the histories that related to the work, but avoided all mention of the meanings (of the work itself): and others attended to the meanings without the reading and the histories. *Tabrizī*, too, first wrote on it, as he informs us, a full commentary, without quoting the whole of all the pieces of poetry; then he explained it summarily without separating the verses in his comments; but perceiving that most people who read the book after him were anxious for an explanation of each verse after it, and were inclined to this (method), that the knowledge of what was difficult in each verse might be rendered easy to them, and the meaning of the poet unfolded, he set about commenting on the work soundly from beginning to end, verse by verse in succession, as well as explaining the derivations of the names of the poets and others mentioned in the *Hamāsa*, with whatever is extraordinary in each verse, the right reading and the sense; mentioning too, the differences of learned men on the passages where differences occurred; and introducing the histories (on which the poems are said to be founded) in their (proper) places. As the commentary edited by Dr. Freytag is conformable exactly to the process last described, it is doubtless the third, or that which crowned the endeavours of *Tabrizī* to elucidate the poems of the *Hamāsa*.

Truly conscious though the writer of these remarks is, that he cannot do justice to the poems of the *Hamāsa* in any attempt to translate them; yet he is himself so sensible of the many and rare beauties they possess, that he ventures to give a version, even as nearly verbal as possible, of a few odes taken from the first and second books.

Ta'abbatu Sharran said:

1st Verse. Truly by the praises I sang, I was guide to the son of the uncle of *Assidk*, *Shams* son of *Mālik*;* then I directed my steps with them to him.

2d. In the assembly of the tribe, I agitated with them his side, as he agitated mine by the (gift of the) white high-bred camel fed on *arāk*.

3d. Sparing (is he) of complaint for any calamity that may befall him, abundant in attention (to weighty matters), various in methods and ways:

4th. He passes a desert by day, and continues his course through another at night, alone, riding unsaddled the backs of dangers:

5th. And wherever he tends, he outstrips the foremost of the wind, in (its) blast with violence striving to overtake.

6th. When drowsiness sews together his eyelids, he fails not of a guardian in a heart, cautious, intrepid:

7th. And (when awake) he constitutes his eyes the watch of his heart, till the drawing forth of the smooth, cutting blade:

8th.

* Sovereign of *Basra* and *Kāfu*.

8th. When he moves that in the bone of his adversary, the grinders of the mouths of the smiling fates glitter.

9th. Solitude he regards as an intimate acquaintance; and he proceeds unerringly (in his course) wherever is directed the mother of the clustered stars.*

Abdu-l-Malik, son of *Abdu-r-Rahīm Alhūrithī*, said: (and the ode is attributed also to *Samau'al*, son of *Adiyū Alyahūdī*.)

1st. When the character of a man is not stained with dishonour, whatever garment he wears is becoming:

2d. And, if he imposes not violence on self,† there is no way for him to the glory of renown.

3d. If (self) reproaches us (saying) that small is our number: I reply, can the generous be (accounted) small?

4th. And, small are not they whose residue, like us, strive to outstrip to glory.

5th. What injury, too, does it occasion us that we are few, when our ally is powerful, and the ally of the more numerous despised?

6th. To us belongs the mountain,‡ on which those we protect fix their abode, (so) high (that) it repels the eye, which is dazzled (in gazing at it).

7th. Its foundation is established beneath the earth, and its summit, too lofty to be attained, mounts to the stars.

8th. And we are a people that regard not death a dishonour, when *Āmir* and *Salūs* view it (as such).

9th. The love of death draws near to us our terms of life; but, their fates abhor it, and are long.

10th. Never does a prince of us die a natural death; nor does (one) of us fall unrevenged, wherever he is slain.

11th. Our lives flow away on the edge of the sword, and on swords only do they flow.

12th. We are pure, we are not muddy (in blood); the females that bore us legitimately and the males of genuine descent have kept pure the glory of our race.

13th. We ascended to the best of loins, and at (the same) time to the best of wombs (our) descent brought us down.

14th. Like the water of the clouds, therefore, are we: in our pedigree not one weak exists, nor among us is a miser numbered.

15th. We deny, if we will, to (other) men their assertion; but they deny not the assertion when we speak.

16th. When a prince passes away from us, (another) prince arises, eloquent, acting according to that which the generous utter.

17th. Nor is our fire extinguished against the nightly traveller, nor does a guest censure us among those who alight (for hospitality).

18th. And famous are our days among our foes: they have the well-known stars in their forehead and the white feet.||

19th. And our swords in every west and east, notched from the battering of the mail-clad (warriours),

20th. (Arc) exercised: never may their blades be drawn and sheathed till the multitude of various races (opposed to us) be extirpated!

21st. Ask, if thou art ignorant, people respecting us and them; and the knowing and the ignorant are not equal:

22d.

* By the mother of the clustered stars is meant the sun or the milky way. He is so much accustomed to the solitude of deserts, that he has no dread of them; and he is as little likely to err in journeying through deserts, as the sun or the milky way in the skies: or, he proceeds unerringly wherever the sun or the milky way appears, that is, in all places.

† If he forces not himself, contrary to the inclination of his nature, to endure labour, hunger, and thirst in the execution of heroic achievements.

‡ The glory and eminence of his tribe.

§ Names of two tribes.

• || Famous are our deeds among our enemies: they are well known or notable, as horses, that have stars in their foreheads or their feet white, are distinguished among other horses.

22d. For the sons of *Daigān* are the axis* of their tribe, on which their millstone turns round them and revolves.

Alashtar-un-Nakha'i said :

1st. May I hoard up wealth, and may I turn aside from (the path of) glory, and may I receive my guests with a gloomy countenance,

2d. If I pour not out on *Ibn Harb*† an invasion, which shall never cease from the plunder of lives—

3d. Horses like dragons, slim and fleet, with men whose characters admit no stain, who frown (at every danger) in battle,

4th. The iron armour upon whom burns, so that it is as it were the flash of the lightning or the beams of the sun.

The three odes above translated are from the first book, peculiarly called that of *Hamāsa*; and the following are from the second book, or that of elegies.

Abda, son of *Attābib*, said :

1st. On thee, *Kais*, son of *Āsim*, be the blessing and mercy of God as long as it pleases God to display mercy!

2d. (Is) the benediction of him whom thou hast left the butt of perdition. When from afar he visits thy land, he thus blesses thee.

3d. For the fall of *Kais* was not the fall of an individual; but in him the structure of the whole people fell.

Abu Atā Assindī said :

1st. Ha! surely the eye that poured not out over thee, on the day of *Wūsī*, the flowing tear, was incapable of weeping :

2d. On the evening that the female mourners arose, and the vests and cheeks were torn by the hands of the wailing throng.

3d. If thou art now banished the court (of thy mansion), yet oft have companies after companies resided in it :

4th. And, though thou never absentest† thyself from thy guest, yet all who are (sunk) beneath the earth are (for ever) absent.

Duraid, son of *Assimma*, said :

1st. I admonished the commander, and the associates of the commander, as well as the band of the sons of *Assaudā*, when the people were present before me ;

2d. And I said to them, "be assured that the enemy are coming upon you with two thousand men in armour, the best part of them in firm coats of mail :"

3d. Yet, though they opposed me (in counsel); and I saw their error, and was aware of not being guided aright, I still continued (one) of them.

4th. I committed to them my guidance in the bend, where the sand-drifts close, and they would not admit good counsel; but the sunshine of the morrow (exposed their error) :

5th. (For) of what tribe am I but of *Ghazā*? If it errs, I err; and if *Ghazā* goes right, I go right (too).

6th. They cried out to one another; then they said, "the horsemen have overthrown a warrior!" I exclaimed, "is that *Abdullāh* (who is) perishing?"

7th. I hastened to him whilst the spears were piercing him, like the penetration of the weaver's pins‡ in the outstretched web :

8th.

* The chiefs, or those to whom others have recourse for protection : or those by whom the affairs of the tribe are conducted.

On the margin of an old copy of the *Hamāsa* are inserted two verses; but whether intended as a part of the text or not is doubtful: their import is,

When our swords fall short of the enemy, we make our steps the joining with them, and they are long :

We give, but are not given to; and we confer benefits, but have not benefits conferred on us : and, what are men but the beggar and the begged ?

† By *Ibn Harb* is meant *Mu'awiya*, son of *Abu Sufyān*.

‡ The pins or pegs that separate the threads when extended on the loom.

8th. And I became, like the female camel, allured by the stuffed young one's skin, that hastily comes and goes to the lacerated hide of its colt.*

9th. Then I strove to repel from him the horsemen, till they were dispersed, and till the dark-coloured gore had covered me :

10th. With the exertion in battle of one who devoted himself for his brother, and who knows that man is not eternal.

11th. Though *Abdullāh* has (now) vacated his station, yet he was not dilatory (in his affairs) or deviating from the mark in (what) his hand (was directed to) ;

12th. Expeditious in his dress, (in height such that) half his leg was out (of his attire), remote from (all) diseases, meditating great affairs,

13th. Rare in complaint for misfortunes, to-day guarding against the consequences of events to-morrow.

14th. Thou wouldst see him slender in the waist, though provisions were at hand ; ready for enterprise, though in a torn vest.†

15th. If want and hardship touched him, (that only) increased his readiness to give and dissipate whatever was in his grasp.

16th. Whilst youth lasted, till grayness invaded his head, he acted like a youth ; but when that came upon him, he said to vanity, " be no more."

17th. It delights my soul that I never said to him, " thou hast spoken falsely," and that towards him I never was a miser in what my hands possessed.

Taabbata Sharran said ; and the poem is otherwise attributed to *Shanfarā*, the son of *Taabbata Sharran's* sister.

1st. In the valley between the two mountains, under the cleft of the rock, lies the slain, whose blood shall not pass unrevenged.

2d. He has left, he has bequeathed, the charge to me : I have taken his charge on myself.

3d. (He said) but in pursuit of revenge for me is the son of my sister, mighty in battle, whose knot (of determination) will not be loosened :

4th. Silent he sweats death, as the basilisk in silence vomits forth poison, against which there is no charm.

5th. The intelligence of what had happened to us was direful ; it was so important that (other) the most important affairs were trifling through it.

6th. Fortune prevailed over me and plundered me, was unjust towards one who disdains to yield, whose comrade shall not be vilified.

7th. (Grateful was he as) the sun in winter ; but when *Sirius* blazed, coolness and shade :

8th. Dry on the sides, though remote from want ;‡ moist in the hands ;§ quick of apprehension ; trusting to self :

9th. Journeying with prudence, till when he alighted, prudence alighted where he took up his abode.

10th. An extended rain that covers the surface of the earth when he gave ; a lion that dreads not opposition when he rushed to the attack :

11th. Loose in attire among his tribe ; dark-lipped ; negligent of dress ;|| but, when he went forth to war, a lean-haunched *Sima*.¶

12th.

* The skin of a dead young camel is stuffed and preserved, that being shewn to the mother, it may induce her to give her milk more freely. The poet likens himself, in defending his slain brother, to the camel that shews the same attention to the skin of its deceased offspring as if it was alive.

† Studious to gain the affections of others by entertaining them with what he had, rather than to apply it to the feeding or adorning of his own body.

‡ Rather giving what he had to others than expending it on himself. The Arabs, too, glory in being lean.

§ Liberal, as if the hands dripped with gifts.

|| Too conscious of his dignity among his tribe to study nicety in dress.

¶ An animal said to be generated of the wolf and hyæna, lean in its haunches, and accounted by the Arabs to be the most ferocious and destructive of beasts.

12th. Two flavours had he, honey and colocynth;* and both (his friend and his foe) tasted (respectively) the two flavours.

13th. Terror he would mount alone; no one accompanying him save the knotted yemanian (sword).†

14th. Oft the generous youths travelled in the mid-day sun, continuing their journey through the night, till, when (the darkness) was dissipated, they alighted;

15th. Each one persevering in enterprise, arrayed with a penetrating sword, like the flash of the lightning when drawn forth:

16th. Then they would sip up the draughts of sleep, and when they became drunken (with it) thou wouldst rouse them; and they would hasten forward impetuously (to invade the enemy).‡

17th. If, indeed, the tribe *Hudhail* has broken his edge, it is in return for the impression he had (before) made on *Hudhail*,

18th. And by way of retaliation for his having obliged them to take up their abode in a rugged station, where the soles of their camels were broken.

19th. Through me is *Hudhail* scorched (in the fire of war) by one famed for liberality, who will not feel disgust for bloodshed till they nauseate it.

20th. He will give his spear to drink its full; yet, when it has done so once, its draught shall be repeated.

21st. The hyæna laughs at the slain of *Hudhail*, and thou seest the wolf exulting on account of them:

22d. And the birds of prey flutter with the distention of their maws, treading on the slain, and unable to rise aloft in the air.

23d. (Now) the wine, though before prohibited (by my vow) is allowable: what was once interdicted, is through patience become lawful:§

24th. Hand it me, therefore, *Sawād*, son of *Anru*; for my body is become emaciated, since (the fall of) my uncle.

J. S.

* He was kind as honey is sweet to his friends, but bitter as coloquintida in enmity to his foes.

† He would alone undertake that which is terrible, and subject it to himself, as the horse or camel is mounted and swayed by the rider; at least, he would take no comrade or assistant but his sword of Yeman, notched by frequent use.

‡ Intimating that he was the leader of the band of generous youths.

§ It was customary with the Arabs, when some one of their family was slain, to interdict themselves the use of wine, as well as the purification of the body, and the cutting of the hair, till revenge was taken: by calling for wine, therefore, the poet intimates that he had fully avenged the blood of his relative, and absolved himself from the obligation of his vow.

DISTICH FROM THE ANWĀRĪ SOHAILĪ.

Wise men esteem a prophet and a king,
But as two seals set in the self-same ring.

EPIGRAM.

From the *Italian*.

Mævius tries poetry by simple rules;
He lauds dead bards, and calls the living, fools.
To be abused by Mævius, and to live,—
Gods! for such boons what can a poet give!

JUDICIAL IMPROVEMENTS IN CEYLON.

As our Indian administration, especially the judicial branch of it, is becoming, from peculiar circumstances, a subject of increasing interest, a statement, from authentic sources, of the important experiments which have been successfully made at Ceylon, accompanied by an exposition of the principles upon which they were adopted, and the advantages which they have already been attended with, cannot but be gratifying.

Sir Alexander Johnston, the then chief justice and first member of his Majesty's Council in Ceylon, after a very long residence on that island, a very attentive examination of all the different religious and moral codes of the various descriptions of people who inhabit Asia, a constant intercourse for many years, as well literary as official, with natives of all the different castes and religious persuasions which prevail in India, and a most careful consideration of every thing which related to the subject, recorded it as his official opinion, in 1808, that the most certain and the most safe method of improving the British government in India, of raising the intellectual and moral character of the natives, of giving them a real interest in the British Government, and of insuring the continuance of their attachment to the British empire, was to render the system of administering justice amongst them really independent, efficient, and popular; and that the wisest method of gradually attaining these objects, was by granting to the natives of the country themselves, under the superintendence of European judges, a direct and a considerable share in the administration of that system.

As a very general opinion prevailed, both in India and in England, that the natives of India, from their division into castes, from their want of intellect, from their want of education, and from their want of veracity and integrity, were incapable of exercising any political or any judicial authority, either with credit to themselves or with advantage to their countrymen, it was for many reasons deemed prudent by Sir Alexander Johnston, that the experiment of allowing natives of India to exercise the same rights and privileges in the administration of justice in India, as are exercised by Englishmen in Great Britain, should be first tried on the island of Ceylon.

The intellectual and moral character of the inhabitants of Asia is formed, in a great degree, if not altogether, by the different systems of religion, and the different codes of morals which prevail amongst them, and which may be ranked (viewing them not according to the purity and truth of their doctrines, but according to the number of persons who are subject to their influence,) in the following order:—

First, The Hindoo religion and code.

Second, The Buddhist religion and code.

Third, The Mahomedan religion and code. And

Fourth, The Christian religion and its system of morals.

Considering them, therefore, with a view to the peculiarities of their intellectual and moral character, the inhabitants of Asia may be divided into the four following great divisions, each division practically exhibiting, in the character and conduct of the different classes of people who belong to it, the intellectual and moral effect of their respective religious and moral codes:

First, Those who profess the pure Hindoo religion, or some of its modifications.

Second, Those who profess the Buddhist religion, or some of its modifications.

5 M 2

Third,

Third, Those who profess the Mahomedan religion, or some of its modifications. And

Fourth, Those who profess the Christian religion, whether according to the doctrines of the reformed or of the Catholic Church.

The population of Ceylon consists of a considerable number of inhabitants of each of the four following descriptions of people, viz. 1st, of about half a million who derive their descent from the inhabitants of the opposite peninsula of India, who profess the same modification of the Hindoo religion, who speak the same language, have the same customs and laws, and the same division of castes, as those inhabitants; 2dly, of about half a million other inhabitants who claim their descent from the people of Ava and Siam, who have the same religious and moral code, and who profess the same modification and the same customs of the Buddho religion as the inhabitants of those two countries; 3dly, between 50,000 and 60,000 Mahomedan inhabitants, who are partly of Arab and partly of Mogul descent, who have the same customs and laws, and who profess the same modifications of the Mahomedan religion, as prevail amongst the different classes of Mahomedans who inhabit the peninsula of India; and, 4thly, of a very considerable number of what in the rest of India are called half-castes, descended partly from Portuguese, partly from Dutch, and partly from English Europeans, some of them professing the Catholic, some the reformed religion, and all of them resembling in character and disposition the half-castes in the rest of India. As it was therefore obvious that the population of Ceylon was composed of a great number of each of the four great divisions of people of which the population of the rest of India was composed, Sir Alexander Johnston conceived that, should the experiment of extending the rights and privileges of Englishmen, in as far as they relate to the administration of justice, to all the different descriptions of half-castes and other natives on the island of Ceylon, be attended with success, it might therefore be acted upon with great moral and political advantage in legislating for the different descriptions of half-castes and other natives on the continent of India.

From the year 1802, the date of the first royal charter of justice, to the year 1811, justice had been administered in the courts on that island according to what is called, in Holland, the Dutch-Roman law, both in civil and in criminal cases, without a jury of any description whatever, by two European judges, who were judges both of law and fact, as well in civil as in criminal cases. In 1809, it was determined by his Majesty's ministers, on the suggestion of Sir Alexander Johnston, that the two European judges of the Supreme Court on Ceylon should for the future, in criminal cases, be judges only of law, and that juries, composed of the natives of the island themselves, should be judges of the fact, in all cases in which native prisoners were concerned; and, in November 1811, a new charter of justice under the great seal of England was published on Ceylon, by which amongst other things it was in substance enacted, that every native of the island who was tried for a criminal offence before the Supreme Court should be tried by a jury of his own countrymen, and that the right of sitting upon juries in all such cases should be extended, subject to certain qualifications, to every half-caste, and to every other native of the island, whatever his caste or religious persuasion.

This experiment of extending the rights and privileges of Englishmen having, after sixteen years' experience, been found to be productive of the greatest security to Government, and of the greatest benefit to the people of the country, it has become a subject of serious consideration both in India and

and in England, whether the same rights and the same privileges, as since the year 1811 have been exercised with the most beneficial effects by the natives of the island of Ceylon, may not also be exercised with the same good effect by all the natives of the East-India Company's dominions in India; and Sir Alexander Johnston, at the request of the President of the Board of Control, wrote to him, in the year 1825, the letter, of which the following is a copy, explaining to him the reasons which originally induced Sir Alexander to propose the introduction of trial by jury amongst the natives of Ceylon, the mode in which his plan was carried into effect, and the consequences with which its adoption has been attended.

“ 26th May 1825.

“ Dear Sir: I have the pleasure, at your request, to give you an account of the plan I adopted while chief justice and first member of his Majesty's Council on Ceylon, for introducing trial by jury into that island, and for extending the right of sitting upon juries to every half-caste native, as well as to every other native of the country, to whatever caste or religious persuasion he might belong. I shall explain to you the reasons which induced me to propose this plan, the mode in which it was carried into effect, and the consequences with which its adoption has been attended. The complaints against the former system for administering justice on Ceylon were, that it was dilatory, expensive, and unpopular. The defects of that system arose from the little value which the natives of the country attached to a character for veracity, from the total want of interest which they manifested for a system, in the administration of which they themselves had no share, from the difficulty which European judges, who were not only judges of law, but also judges of fact, experienced in ascertaining the degree of credit which they ought to give to native testimony, and finally from the delay in the proceedings of the court, which were productive of great inconvenience to the witnesses who attended the sessions, and great expense to the government which defrayed their costs. The obvious way of remedying these evils in the system of administering justice, was, first, to give the natives a direct interest in that system, by imparting to them a considerable share in its administration; secondly, to give them a proper value for a character for veracity, by making such a character the condition upon which they were to look for respect from their countrymen, and that from which they were to hope for promotion in the service of their government; thirdly, to make the natives themselves, who, from their knowledge of their countrymen, can decide at once upon the degree of credit which ought to be given to native testimony, judges of fact, and thereby shorten the duration of trials, relieve witnesses from a protracted attendance on the courts, and materially diminish the expense of the government. The introduction of trial by jury into Ceylon, and the extension of the right of sitting upon juries to every native of the island, under certain modifications, seemed to me the most advisable method of attaining these objects. Having consulted the chief priests of the Budhoo religion, in as far as the Cingalese in the southern part of the island, and the Brahmins of Remissuram, Madura and Jafna, in as far as the Hindoos of the northern part of the island, were concerned, I submitted my plan for the introduction of trial by jury into Ceylon to the Governor and Council of that island. Sir T. Maitland, the then governor of Ceylon, and the other members of the council, thinking the object of my plan an object of great importance to the prosperity of the island, and fearing lest objections might be urged against it in England, from the novelty of the measure (no such rights as those which I proposed to grant to the natives of Ceylon

Ceylon ever having been granted to any native of India), sent me officially, as first member of council, to England, with full authority to urge, in the strongest manner, the adoption of the measure, under such modifications as his Majesty's ministers might, on my representations, deem expedient. After the question had been maturely considered in England, a charter passed the great seal, extending the right of sitting upon juries, in criminal cases, to every native of Ceylon, in the manner in which I had proposed, and on my return to Ceylon with this charter in November 1811, its provisions were immediately carried into effect by me.

" In order to enable you to form some idea of the manner in which the jury trial is introduced amongst the natives and half-castes of Ceylon, I shall explain to you, 1st, what qualifies a native of Ceylon to be a jurymen; 2dly, how the jurymen are summoned at each session; 3dly, how they are chosen at each trial; and 4thly, how they receive the evidence and deliver their verdict. Every native of Ceylon, provided he be a freeman, has attained the age of twenty-one, and is a permanent resident in the island, is qualified to sit on juries. The fiscal, or shériff of the province, as soon as a criminal session is fixed for his province, summonses a considerable number of jurymen of each caste, taking particular care that no jurymen is summoned out of his turn, or so as to interfere with any agricultural or manufacturing pursuits in which he may be occupied, or with any religious ceremony at which his caste may require his attendance. On the first day of the session the names of all the jurymen who are summoned are called over, and the jurymen, as well as all the magistrates and police officers, attend in court, and hear the charge delivered by the judge. The prisoners are then arraigned; every prisoner has a right to be tried by thirteen jurymen of his own caste; unless some reason why the prisoner should not be tried by jurymen of his own caste can be urged to the satisfaction of the court by the Advocate Fiscal, who on Ceylon holds an office very nearly similar to that held in Scotland by the Lord Advocate; or unless the prisoner himself, from believing people of his own caste to be prejudiced against him, should apply to be tried either by thirteen jurymen of another caste, or by a jury composed of half-castes, or Europeans. As soon as it is decided of what caste the jury is to be composed, the register of the court puts into an urn, which stands in a conspicuous part of the court, a very considerable number of the names of jurymen of that caste out of which the jury is to be formed; he continues to draw the names out of the urn (the prisoner having a right to object to five peremptorily, and to any number, for cause), until he has drawn the names of thirteen jurymen who have not been objected to: these thirteen jurymen are then sworn, according to the form of their respective religions, to decide upon the case according to the evidence, and without partiality. The Advocate Fiscal then opens the case for the prosecution (through an interpreter if necessary) to the judge, and proceeds to call all the witnesses for the prosecution, whose evidence is taken down (through an interpreter if necessary), in the hearing of the jury, by the judge; the jury having a right to examine, and the prisoner to cross-examine, any of the above witnesses. When the case for the prosecution is closed, the prisoner states what he has to urge in his defence, and calls his witnesses, the jury having a right to examine, and the prosecutor to cross-examine them; their evidence being taken down by the judge: the prosecutor is seldom or never, except in very particular cases, allowed to reply or call any witnesses in reply. The case for the prosecution and for the prisoner being closed, the judge (through an interpreter when necessary) recapitulates the evidence to the jury

jury from his notes, adding such observations from himself as may occur to him on the occasion, the jury, after deliberating upon the case, either in the jury box, or, if they wish to retire, in a room close to the court, deliver their verdict through their foreman in open court, that verdict being the opinion of the majority of them; the most scrupulous care being taken that the jury never separate, nor communicate with any person whatever, from the moment they are sworn, till their verdict, having been delivered as aforesaid, has been publicly recorded by the register. The number of native jurymen of every caste on Ceylon is so great, and a knowledge before-hand what persons are to compose a jury in any particular case is so uncertain, that it is almost impossible for any person, whatever may be his influence in the country, either to bias or to corrupt a jury. The number of jurymen that are returned by the Fiscal or Sheriff to serve at each session, the impartial manner in which the names of the jurymen are drawn, the right which the prisoner and prosecutor may exercise of objecting to each jurymen as his name is drawn, the strictness which is observed by the court in preventing all communication between the jurymen when they are once sworn, and every other person, till they have delivered their verdict, give great weight to their decision. The native jurymen being now judges of fact, and the European judges only judges of law, one European judge only is now necessary, where formerly, when they were judges both of law and fact, two, or sometimes three, were necessary. The native jurymen, from knowing the different degrees of weight which may safely be given to the testimony of their countrymen, decide upon questions of fact with so much more promptitude than Europeans could do, that, since the introduction of trial by jury, no trial lasts above a day, and no session above a week or ten days at furthest; whereas, before the introduction of trial by jury, a single trial used sometimes to last six week or two months, and a single session not unfrequently for three months. All the natives who attend the courts as jurymen obtain so much information during their attendance, relative to the modes of proceeding and the rules of evidence, that, since the establishment of jury trial, Government have been enabled to find amongst the half-castes and native jurymen, some of the most efficient and respectable native magistrates in the country, who, under the control of the Supreme Court, at little or no expense to Government, administer justice in inferior offences to the native inhabitants. The introduction of the trial by native juries, at the same time that it has increased the efficiency and despatch of the courts, and has relieved both prisoners and witnesses from the hardships which they incurred from the protracted delay of the criminal sessions, has, independent of the savings it enabled the Ceylon Government to make immediately on its introduction, since afforded that Government an opportunity of carrying into effect, in the judicial department of the island, a plan for a permanent saving of ten thousand pounds a year, as appears by my report quoted in page 8 of the printed Collection of Papers herewith sent. No man whose character for honesty or veracity is impeached can be enrolled on the list of jurymen, the circumstance of a man's name being upon the jury roll is a proof of his being a man of unexceptionable character, and is that to which he appeals in case his character be attacked in a court of justice, or in case he solicits his Government for promotion in their service. As the rolls of jurymen are revised by the Supreme Court at every session, they operate as a most powerful engine in making the people of the country more attentive than they used to be in their adherence to truth: the right of sitting upon juries has given the natives of Ceylon a value for character, which they never felt before,

and

and has raised in a very remarkable manner the standard of their moral feelings. All the natives of Ceylon who are enrolled as jurymen, conceive themselves to be as much a part, as the European judges themselves are, of the Government of their country, and therefore feel, since they have possessed the right of sitting upon juries, an interest which they never felt before in upholding the British Government of Ceylon. The beneficial consequence of this feeling is strongly exemplified in the difference between the conduct which the native inhabitants of the British settlements on Ceylon observed in the Kandian war of 1803 and that which they observed in the Kandian war of 1816. In the war between the British and Kandian Government in 1803, which was before the introduction of trial by jury, the native inhabitants of the British settlements were, for the most part, in a state of rebellion; in the war between the same governments in 1816, which was five years after the introduction of trial by jury, the inhabitants of the British settlements, so far from shewing the smallest symptom of dissatisfaction, took, during the very heat of the war, the opportunity of my return to England, to express their gratitude through me to the British Government for the valuable right of sitting upon juries, which had been conferred upon them by his present Majesty, as appears by the addresses contained from page 16 to page 50, in the printed papers herewith sent. The charge delivered by my successor, the present Chief Justice of the island, in 1820, contains the strongest additional testimony which could be afforded of the beneficial effects which were experienced by the British Government from the introduction of trial by jury amongst the natives of the island. (See that charge in pages 289 and 290 of Vol. X. of the *Asiatic Journal*.) As every native jurymen, whatever his caste or religion may be, or in whatever part of the country he may reside, appears before the Supreme Court once at least every two years, and as the judge who presides delivers a charge at the opening of each session to all the jurymen who are in attendance on the court; a useful opportunity is afforded to the natives of the country, by the introduction of trial by jury, not only of participating themselves in the administration of justice, but also of hearing any observations which the judges, in delivering their charge may think proper to make to them with respect to any subject which is connected either with the administration of justice, or with the state of society or morals in any part of the country. The difference between the conduct which was observed by all the proprietors of slaves on Ceylon, in 1806, which was before the introduction of trial by jury, and that which was observed by them in 1816, which was five years after the introduction of trial by jury, is a strong proof of the change which may be brought about in public opinion, by the judges availing themselves of the opportunity which their charging the jury on the first day of session affords them, of circulating amongst the natives of the country such opinions as may promote the welfare of any particular class of society. As the right of every proprietor of slaves to continue to hold slaves on Ceylon was guaranteed to him by the capitulation under which the Dutch possessions had been surrendered to the British arms in 1795, the British Government of Ceylon conceived that, however desirable the measure might be, they had not a right to abolish slavery on Ceylon by any legislative act. A proposition was, however made on the part of Government by me to the proprietors of slaves in 1806, before trial by jury was introduced, urging them to adopt some plan of their own accord for the gradual abolition of slavery; this proposition they at that time unanimously rejected. The right of sitting upon juries was granted to the inhabitants of Ceylon in 1811. From that period I availed myself

self of the opportunities which were afforded to me, when I delivered my charge at the commencement of each session to the jurymen, most of whom were considerable proprietors of slaves, of informing them of what was doing in England upon the subject of the abolition of slavery, and of pointing out to them the difficulties which they themselves must frequently experience, in executing with impartiality their duties as jurymen, in all cases in which slaves were concerned; a change of opinion upon the subject of slavery was gradually perceptible amongst them, and in the year 1816, the proprietors of slaves of all castes and religious persuasions in Ceylon, sent me their unanimous resolutions, to be publicly recorded in court, declaring free all children born of their slaves after the 12th of August 1816, which in the course of a very few years must put an end to the state of slavery which had subsisted on Ceylon for more than three centuries.”*

Sir Alexander Johnston was fully aware, when he first introduced trial by jury into Ceylon, that the degree of confidence which the people of the country might be expected to repose in that institution would be proportionate to the conviction which they entertained, that they themselves would be always consulted, as to the character and qualifications of those persons whose names were to be enrolled in the list of men qualified to act as jurors, and that neither the Local Government nor the Supreme Court would ever attempt to exert any undue influence, either in the original formation of that list, or in the subsequent selection from it, of such jurors as might from time to time be required to serve at any criminal session which might be held by the Supreme Court in any part of the island. The great object, therefore, which Sir Alexander Johnston had in view, in all the regulations which he made upon this subject, was not only to render it extremely difficult, but to convince the people of the country themselves that it was extremely difficult, if not impossible, either for the Local Government or the Court to exert any undue influence as to the jurors, without their attempt to do so becoming directly a matter of public notoriety and public animadversion.

It appeared to Sir A. Johnston that the surest method of attaining this object was to limit, as far as he could by public regulations, the power of the Court and that of its officers; and to place them in every point which was in any way connected with the jury, under the constant inspection and control of the people of the country. He accordingly, after much consultation with some of the most enlightened natives of the island, published a regulation, declaring that every man on the island, whatever might be his caste or religious persuasion, had a positive right to act as a jurymen, provided he was a man of unexceptionable character, a free man, a permanent resident on the island, and had attained the age of twenty-one. Also declaring that the people of the country themselves should be the judges whether a man had or had not those qualifications which by this regulation gave him that positive right. Sir A. Johnston, at the same time, published another regulation, directing the fiscal or sheriff of each province on the island, publicly to make and return to the Supreme Court a correct list of all persons in his province who were qualified as required by the former regulation to act as jurymen. To prevent the possibility of abuse on the part of the fiscal of any province, the following mode of proceeding was observed by the court:—As soon as the fiscal of a province had made out and returned to the court a list of all
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* See pages 15 and 16, of the Eleventh Report of the Directors of the African Institution, and from page 93 to page 100 of the Appendix of that Report.

persons in his province who were duly qualified to serve as jurymen, this list was by order of the court published and circulated through every part of the province, for the specific purpose of enabling every inhabitant of the province to make such remarks on it as might occur to him, and to prefer, when necessary, an immediate and public complaint to the court against the fiscal, if it should appear that the fiscal either had omitted out of the list the name of any person whose name he ought to have inserted in it, or had inserted in the list the name of any person whose name he ought to have omitted. After the list had undergone this public scrutiny, it was publicly ordered by the court to be considered by the fiscal as the list of all persons who were duly qualified to act as jurors in his province, and that out of which he was bound to return, by rotation, all persons who were required to serve as juror at the criminal sessions held by the Supreme Court in his province. Independent of these precautions against any abuse on the part of the fiscal, every person in a province in which the court was about to hold a criminal session, had public notice given him long before the session was held, that the list in question was always liable to be publicly revised by the court at the commencement of the session, upon any complaint which might be publicly made to the court by an inhabitant of the province, either against the fiscal for any impropriety of conduct in making out the list, or against any individual on the list for any impropriety of conduct in getting his name inserted in that list. Although, therefore, the Supreme Court and its officers, the fiscals, are allowed, for convenience-sake, to be the instruments through which the list of persons on the island qualified to act as jurymen is obtained, it is hardly possible, considering the manner in which all their proceedings in this point are watched and controlled by the people of the country, that either the court itself or its officers can exert any undue influence in the selection of jurors without such conduct being immediately known, and becoming a subject of public and general animadversion.

‘ We subjoin the following authentic fact, which is not merely curious in itself, but is illustrative of the benefits of the jury-system.

After the introduction of juries into Ceylon, a wealthy Brahmin, whose unpopular character had rendered him obnoxious to many, was accused of murdering his nephew, and put upon trial. He chose a jury of his own caste; but so strong was the evidence against him, that twelve (out of thirteen) of the jury were thoroughly convinced of his guilt. The dissentient juror, a young Brahmin of Ramisseram, stood up, declared his persuasion that the prisoner was the victim of a conspiracy, and desired that all the witnesses might be recalled. He examined them with astonishing dexterity and acuteness, and succeeded in extorting from them such proofs of their perjury, that the jury, instead of consigning the accused to an ignominious death, pronounced him innocent. The affair made much noise in the island; and the Chief Justice (Sir A. Johnston himself) sent for the juror who had so distinguished himself, and complimented him upon the talents he had displayed. The Brahmin attributed his skill to his study of a book, which he called “strengtheners of the mind.” He had procured it, he said, from some pilgrims at Ramisseram, who obtained it from Persia; and he had translated it from the Sanscrit, into which it had been rendered from the Persian. Sir A. Johnston expressing curiosity to see this work, the Brahmin brought him a Tamul MS. on palm leaves, which Sir Alexander found, to his infinite surprise, to be the *Dialectics of Aristotle*!

ON THE NAMES OF CHINA.

By M. KLAPROTH.*

THE name of "China," which we give to the largest country in Eastern Asia, is not in general use there: we received it from the Malays, who call it چین *China*. The pilots and some of the seamen who navigated the first Portuguese vessels that visited China, being of Malay origin, it was natural enough that the Portuguese themselves should adopt the name which their guides gave to that country. The Malays had known the Chinese ever since the latter part of the third century before our era, when Tsin-che-hwang-te (their first supreme monarch) subjected the southern part of China, as well as Tonquin, and pushed his conquests as far as Cochinchina. The natives of the Malay islands, having direct commercial relations with these countries, were consequently acquainted, from that period, with the Chinese, who then bore the name of *Tsin*: the Malays not having the aspirated *ts*, pronounced this word *China*, appending to it the *a*. It is equally well established, that the first intercourse of the Chinese with India bears date in the Tsin dynasty.† This name was converted by the Hindoos into चीन *China*, for the same reason as with the Malays, since the Devanagari alphabet and its derivatives are equally destitute of the aspirated consonant *ts*, for which when necessary the च *ch* is substituted. In the Buddhist books, the name is also written *China*; it has even been adopted in the Chinese translations made from these books; and the Chinese themselves have affected the use of two characters (*Che-na*) which express the same sounds. It was from India, moreover, that the Arabians acquired the word چین *Jin*, as they were obliged to write it, not having the Persian چ *ch*. They speedily perceived, however, that this letter, چ, was not exactly adapted to express the name Tsin; they accordingly exchanged the initial letter for ص and wrote سین *Sin*. Hence some German scholars, not very conversant with the subject, have concluded that we ought rather to write *Sina* than *China*; forgetting that in their mother tongue the letter *s* represents the *z* of the dialects derived from the Latin; and that it is much too soft to express the sound of the Chinese *ts*, which is the German *z* aspirated.

The Sanscrit name महचीन *Mahá China*, contracted in the Hindoo dialects into माचिन *Mačin*, and adopted under this latter form by the Persians, is not very ancient; it seems not to be of an earlier date than the middle of the twelfth century, the period when the emperors of the Sung dynasty were forced to withdraw into the southern portion of their empire, and cede the northern provinces to the Kin or Jurjah, the ancestors of the Mandchūs of the present day. The northern part of China then received, amongst foreigners, the name of China or Chiu; before that period it had also been called Cathay, from the name of the Khitans, a Tungouse-Mongol tribe, who ruled there.

Notwithstanding the monstrous configuration which Ptolemy has given to the

* *Journal Asiatique*, n. 55 p. 53.† Which ended B.C. 189.—*Ed.*

the south-eastern portion of Asia, we can easily recognize upon his charts the Ultra-Gangetic peninsula, the Gulf of Tonquin, and the southern coast of China. He calls the inhabitants of the latter, and those of Tonquin, *Sinæ*, because they were then under Chinese dominion. Their capital, *Thinæ* (ἡ μητρόπολις Θίναι) is most probably the present Canton, or at least a town which existed in its neighbourhood, for Canton has several times changed its place, as we find from the history of China. Ptolemy has prolonged the southern coast of China towards the south, although in fact it extends from west to east, so that his chart is completely twisted; but it is only necessary to turn it about in order to discover the site of Canton in *Thinæ*, and the Bocca Tigris, or estuary of the Tiger, in the *τῶν Σινῶν κόλπος*, or *gulf of the Sinæ*. Even the Ta-keang, or Se-keang (river), may be perceived, on the northern bank of which Canton, or the capital of the *Sinæ*, is situated. The notions which Ptolemy entertained respecting this country were probably more ancient than his age; or, what is equally probable, the name of Tsin, given to China, was already common throughout India, beyond the Ganges, and amongst the inhabitants of the Sunda islands. Cosmas Indicopleustes, a Christian of the Latin church, who travelled over India in the early part of the sixth century, has left a very curious *Christian cosmography*, wherein he names China *Τζινίτζα*, *Tzinitza*, compares it with India, Persia, and the Roman states, and asserts that there is no navigation beyond that country: he adds, in another part of his book, that *Tzinitza* was washed by the sea to the eastward.

Although the ancients, the Arabian navigators, and the early Portuguese who visited India, had adopted the Sanscrit and Malay name of *China* for northern China; the southern part of this country, not bearing the same name amongst the neighbouring people, was differently denominated in the west. Under the Han dynasty, that is, in the two centuries before and after our era, the Chinese had subdued the whole of central Asia, as far as the banks of the Oxus and Jaxartes. They had established military colonies there, and their traders traversed those countries to barter their merchandize for the products of Persia and the Roman empire. They brought chiefly raw silk and silk stuffs, which met with an excellent market in Persia and Europe. According to the Greek authors, the word *σεῖ* denoted the *silk-worm*, and the inhabitants of *Serica*, the country from whence silk was brought. This fact demonstrates that the name of *Seres* was given them from the precious commodity which the people of the west came to them in search of. In the Armenian language, the insect which produces silk is called *sheram*, a name which bears a strong resemblance to the *σεῖ* of the Greeks. It is natural to believe that these two words were borrowed from people more eastern; this we are enabled to prove by means of the Mongol and Mandchū tongues. It results that the name of silk, amongst the ancients, really originated in eastern Asia. Silk is called *sirkek* by the Mongols, and *sirgha* by the Mandchūs: these two nations dwelt on the north and north-east of China. Can it be presumed that they received these denominations from the people of the west? On the other hand, the Chinese *szc*, which means *raw silk*, discovers not only some resemblance to *sirkek* and *sirgha*, but a remarkable similarity to the *σεῖ* of the Greeks. The analogy will appear more striking still when it is known that in the Mandarin dialect the *r* is not pronounced, although it may probably be found in the old dialects of China. But the Corean word *str*, denoting *silk*, is completely identical with the Greek *σεῖ*, which is pronounced *str*.* Silk then gave its name

* It would be curious to ascertain when the word *silk* was introduced into the English language. It appears to be the same as the Russian *chelk*, which, I believe, is derived from the Mongol *sirkek*: a fact which is the more probable because Russia was long under the yoke of the Mongols.—K.

name to the people who manufactured it and sent it to the west. Thus the Seres are evidently the Chinese, whose empire was formerly separated by the Oxus from that of Persia, whatever those geographers may say, who are only capable of fixing the position of nations by means of compasses.

The first Chinese colonies which came from the north-west to people the countries along the Hwang-ho (or yellow river), found themselves in the midst of tribes almost in a savage state, at least much less civilized than themselves. They, therefore, gave to the state which they proceeded to found, the name of *Chung-kwō*, or the *middle kingdom* or *empire*. Some Chinese writers tell us that this denomination began in the time of Ching-wang, the second emperor of the Chow dynasty, who reigned towards the close of the twelfth century before our era. At this period China was divided into several principalities, all of which assumed the title of kingdoms. Chow-kung, uncle of that emperor, gave to the country of Lo-yang, in Ho-nan, where the Chinese monarch resided, the name of Chung-kwō, because it was situated in the midst of the other kingdoms of which China was then composed. Henceforward, add the same authors, the portion of the empire, or its aggregate, possessed by the emperors, has always borne this title.

The same denomination has been retained even to the present time; and the nations adjoining China have transmitted it in their respective languages. The Mandchūs say *Dulimba-e-Gurun*; the Mongols *Dumda-en-ulus*; the Tonquinese *Juwa-kwok*; the Japanese *Tsiow-kokow*; and the Burmans *Alai-prai-dai*: all these appellations signify the *middle kingdom*.

This epithet given to China may, however, be explained in a different manner. Chung, in Chinese, signifies also "the perfect moral medium, which in no wise deviates from rectitude." In this acceptation of the word, Chung-kwō will mean the perfectly well-governed kingdom. I need not here refute the absurd idea of those who pretend that the Chinese believe their country to be situated in the centre of the world, and that it is on that account they call it Chung-kwō. A sailor or a coolie of Canton may, indeed, give such an explanation, but it is for the understanding of those who interrogate him to adopt or reject it.*

Another name by which the Chinese frequently designate their country is that of Sze-hae, or the *four seas*. This may be termed a poetical appellation, for it supposes four great masses of water surrounding China, whilst it is washed by the sea only on the east and the south. Some vague notions respecting the Caspian Sea, lake Baikal, and even the Frozen Ocean, may have given rise to this denomination in early times.†

The term *T'ien-hea*, that which is under heaven, the world (in a limited sense), in Mandchū, *Abkai-fejexghi*, and in Mongol, *Tegri-en-dozihn*, is commonly applied to China, by amplification, as the word *orbis* by the Romans to their empire. The Japanese pronounce Tenka for T'ien-hea, and apply this name to their own country.

Another denomination of China is *Shin-tan*, that is, the *Eastern Aurora*.‡ It is found in the Bauddhist books, and is principally used by the Japanese, who translate it by *Moru-kossi*. Other Chinese names of China are *Chung-hwa*, or the *flower of the middle*; *T'ien-chaou*, or the *celestial empire*; *Chung-yang*, or the *vast middle platform*.§

The Mahomedans of China apply to the country the name of *Tung-too*, or *eastern land*, and give that of *Chung-kwō* to Arabia, the native country of the founder of their religion.||

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* See note (a) at the end.

† See note (b).

‡ See note (c).

§ See note (d).

|| See note (e).

The Chinese commonly call their empire after the name of the reigning dynasty. It is thus that, in the most remote times, they gave it the names of *Tang*, of *Yu*, and of *Hea*. The great deeds of the emperors of the Han dynasty recommended this name to common use, and subsequently the Chinese bore the name of *Han-jin*, or *men of Han*; it is even at present very common: the Japanese pronounce it *Kan*. The dynasty of the *Tangs* being rendered still more illustrious by conquest than that of Han, the name *Tang-jin*, or *men of Tang*, was for some centuries in use as a designation of the Chinese: it is yet employed in Japan, but there it is translated *Kara*, which, like *Tang*, in Chinese, signifies *vain-glorious, boastful*, and is written with the same character.

China, at the present period, being governed by the Mandchū dynasty, which adopted the title of *T'ing*, or *Ta-tsing*, the Chinese call themselves *T'ing-jin*, or *men of T'ing*, as they bore the name of *Ming-jin* under the Ming dynasty.

The Mongols call the Chinese *Kitat* and *Nanghéat*. The Mandchūs give them the name of *Nekan*. The Tonquinese and the inhabitants of Cochin China call them, by way of contempt, *Ngo*, and their kingdom *Noo-ock-ngo*. The Tibetians give to China the appellation of *Youlbow*, and to its inhabitants that of *Janag*, or *Gheanag*, which signifies white *Jas*, or *Gheas*, in contradistinction to the *Jagar* or *Gheagar*, that is, black *Jas* or *Gheas*, who are the Hindoos.

NOTES.

(a) This passage seems to contain a sneer against Dr. Morrison, who certainly implies, if he does not expressly declare, that the Chinese understand by *Chung-kwō* that their nation is situated in the midst of the terrestrial world. The absurdity of the supposition that such is their notion is not very apparent. On the contrary, there is a very strong presumption, even from M. Klaproth's subsequent statements, that the Chinese do so understand it. But let us first examine this writer's hypothesis. He says that *Chung*, in Chinese, signifies "the perfect moral medium which never deviates from rectitude." This is not correct: the character *chung*, in which the radical *kwān*, a perpendicular line, intersects a square, signifies the middle, the centre, equi-distant from two extremes. The phrase M. Klaproth gives as the meaning of the character, is in fact the meaning of a sentence quoted in the dictionaries to illustrate the signification of *chung*, viz. "Ta chung che ching," or "Holding the perfect medium, without the least deviation from rectitude." (Morrison, I, 1, 25; I, 2, 110.) It is true, an ancient commentator on the *Chung-yung*, one of the four books of Confucius, says that the word there implies "neither excess nor defect, not leaning to one side or the other." But it is plain that even this amplification is no authority for M. Klaproth's definition of the term, which is forced and inaccurate. His idea that *Chung-kwō* means "the kingdom perfectly well-governed," seems, to use his own phrase, absurd.

(b) The notion that the Chinese suppose their empire to be surrounded by the sea, and especially by the waters specified by M. Klaproth, is, in our opinion, infinitely more absurd than that respecting the central position of their empire. The notion is, besides, perfectly gratuitous, and without authority. Dr. Morrison tells us that, according to the Chinese, the four seas (*Sze-hae*) surround the world; hence "all within the four seas denotes all within the world." We were not aware that the phrase was ever used by the Chinese as an appellation of their own empire; but if it has been so used, it seems to supply an additional proof that the meaning ascribed to the phrase *Chung-kwō*, which M. Klaproth thinks so absurd, is the true one.

(c) Without commenting upon the absurd pleonasm of "eastern Aurora," M. Klaproth here seems completely misled. Morrison says that "*Chin-tan* is a name given to China in the western regions. The character of *Chin* is not plainly printed in his dic-

tionary,

tionary, but it appears to us that it should be *shin*; and *shin-tan* would then signify "the earliest dawn." Now it is apparent that this denomination could only have been used by the people who employed it, as we use the word "east," in speaking of Asia; that is to say, a people situated more to the west than the Chinese referred to the latter in this poetical phrase. It is idle to class this amongst the names of China.

(d) *Chung-yāng*, which M. Klaproth translates "*le vaste plateau du milieu*," signifies no more than "the midst, the very centre of any thing, as appears incontestably from some verses in the *Shi-king* quoted by Dr. Morrison (I, 1, 585). This furnishes another striking evidence that the Chinese, in calling their empire *Chung-kwō*, do not intend "the moral medium," the "point of rectitude," but its physical position.

(e) M. Klaproth appears to have taken this part of his argument from Dr. Morrison (Part III, p. 68), and to have misunderstood the lexicographer. "China's name," says Dr. M., "*Chung-kwō*, or middle nation, is claimed for Arabia by some of the Mahomedan writers in China: they say 'China should only be called the eastern land; Arabia (the heavenly mansion) is in the midst of the four extreme points, and the progenitor of mankind was produced there.'" By the *progenitor of mankind*, M. Klaproth has understood *Mahomed*; and he has, moreover, overlooked this further proof of the accuracy of the opinion which he pronounces absurd.

MEMOIR OF MAJOR-GENERAL SIR J. M. CHALMERS.

Major General Sir John Mary Chalmers was an officer of great gallantry and talents. For two and forty years he gave his entire and undivided exertions to the service of his employers. During this period, almost unparalleled in the military annals of the Company, he never, except on duty, quitted the Indian territories. If not actively engaged, he was ever at his post ready to devote himself upon the first emergency to the public service.

The active services of General Chalmers commenced in the year 1776, when he was engaged in the successful attack of the British troops upon the French fort of Mahé. He was subsequently concerned in five other sieges, *viz.* that of Chilumbraum, in 1781; that of Coimbatore, in 1790; that of Pondicherry, in 1792; and those of Ahmednuggur and Gawul Ghur, in 1803; at the latter place he headed one of the storming parties. At the siege of Coimbatore, in the first instance, the fort was invested and carried by General Meadows, who, upon quitting it, left General (then Lieutenant) Chalmers in command. Whilst thus held, it was besieged by an army raised by Tippoo Suldaun, which consisted of 6,000 men with artillery. The enemy commenced an attack with vigour, and continued to batter the place for four and twenty days. Having at length effected a practicable breach, they made preparations for a storm, which was commenced at four o'clock on the morning of the twenty-fifth day. The contest was obstinately maintained for a long period with doubtful success; but the assailants were ultimately repulsed. The loss on both sides was considerable.

A report having gained ground that reinforcements were approaching to relieve the garrison, the enemy prepared for a retreat: which Lieutenant Chalmers perceiving, he sallied forth, stormed and carried a battery, and captured two guns. This gallantry was rewarded with the thanks of Lord Cornwallis and of the Governor of Fort St. George. The reinforcement subsequently arrived but soon returned to the main army leaving only one company behind.

In the mean time the garrison was employed in repairing the defences of the fortress, and in making such other preparations as their means allowed, to
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repel any future attacks. They remained unmolested till October, when Kurreem Khan, one of Tippoo's generals, appeared before the fortress with 12,000 men, infantry and artillery. Without any parley he commenced his attack by opening batteries of 18 and 20-pounders upon the weakest part (the south-east face) of the fort. The garrison made two successful sallies on the enemy's trenches; but at length he succeeded in carrying his approaches to the foot of the glacis, while a practicable breach was also effected in the wall.

At the time the breach was made, the garrison was reduced to the necessity of shooting their great guns with stones, and of using iron slugs for their muskets. The only powder which remained had also been previously condemned and was scarcely serviceable. Intimation had also been given to Lieutenant Chalmers that no reinforcement could be spared to him, and that he and his garrison must depend entirely upon their own courage and resources. In this predicament, it was not deemed advisable to sacrifice the garrison by a further defence, and it was determined to surrender. Conformably with these views a negociation was opened with Kurreem Khan, and an honourable capitulation was concluded on the twenty-eighth day from that on which the enemy had opened his trenches. The thanks of General Meadows were on this occasion added to those of Lord Cornwallis and the Governor in Council, and they were accompanied by a gratuity from the Government of Fort St. George of £200.

General Chalmers was besides engaged in five battles which were attended with the most important results to the Honourable Company. He was also concerned in four campaigns and expeditions, and he quelled a rebellion raised by the Dewan of Travancore.

The following are the battles: in 1781, that of Porto Novo; in 1782, those of Arnee and Tripasore; in 1803, he commanded the rear-guard at the momentous battle of Assye, and he was subsequently engaged in that of Argaum.

The campaigns or expeditions were those against the Marawah country in 1789; against Malacca in 1795; against Banda in 1796; and he had the honour of serving under Major General Sir Arthur Wellesley during the memorable campaign of 1803.

In 1806 he assumed the command of the Travancore subsidiary force. In 1808 the Dewan assembled a body of 25,000 men, with the view of annihilating the Company's force in that quarter, which consisted merely of a company of artillery of H.M.'s 12th Foot and three battalions of native troops. On the 15th January 1809 the rebels made three simultaneous and desperate attacks upon the British line, and an obstinate conflict was continued from daybreak till past eleven A. M. The enemy then gave way after having lost a great number of men and leaving behind them two guns, which fell into the hands of the British troops. On the 31st January, the enemy having re-assembled an army with an addition of 10,000 men, made two separate attacks, in both of which he was repulsed with great slaughter and the loss of two guns: he retreated upon a strongly fortified line. In the mean time the British force had been reinforced with H.M.'s 19th Regt. Foot, and on the 21st February proceeded to attack him in his position, which was gallantly carried, and seven guns captured.

In 1812 General Chalmers succeeded to the staff. In 1813 he was appointed to the command of the northern division of the Madras army, and, in 1815, he received the King's warrant constituting him a Knight Commander of the Bath.

In the year 1818 he embarked for England, and died on the voyage.

T. R.

RYOTWAR SYSTEM.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: With reference to the subject of Ryotwar revenue settlements, now under discussion in India, and to the collection of that revenue by stipendiary native officers, I send for the amusement of your readers, and the benefit of Ryotwar Collectors, extracts from the Revenue Code of the Sultan of Mysore.

Article 41 has not as yet been introduced into the Madras code; but the practice of "saddling" Ryots with a proportion of good and bad land is understood to be in full operation.

C. R.

Article 2d.—On the commencement of the year, he (the collector) shall give cowl to all the reyuts and respectable inhabitants of the district, and encourage them to cultivate the lands. He shall also ascertain in what reyuts' houses there are a number of men and but few ploughs, and having inquired into the circumstances* of such reyuts, shall oblige those who are in good circumstances to increase the number of their ploughs; and, in order to enable the reyuts who are needy to purchase ploughs and cultivate the lands, he shall give tuccavee (advances of money) at the rate of three or four pagodas for every plough, taking security for the repayment. This tuccavee is to be collected from them again in one or two years.

Article 3d.—The following rules are to be attended to in parcelling out the land for cultivation:—An equal proportion of lands which are dry or watered, and of those which are ijara (dry land with a money tax), or hissa (wet land dividing the produce with Government), shall be equally distributed for cultivation amongst the old and new reyuts; and when a reyut sows one khundee of seed in a certain quantity of ijara land, he shall sow one khundee and eight kuros in the same extent of hissa land. An account of the increase and deficiency of the produce shall be made out annually, and according to the cowl the revenue shall be taken in money, or where such shall be the custom, the half of the produce shall be given up to the reyuts, and the other half be retained as the share of the sovereign. Care must be taken that the hissa land is to be well manured, and whoever cultivates a greater quantity of land of this description than may have been allotted to him, pursuant to this rule, shall continue to do so; but if less, he shall be compelled to cultivate the full proportion.

Article 41.—One Putteel (Potail), or Shambogue of a village (village Registrar), shall not visit at the house of another.

Article 43.—The reyuts of villages are accustomed to expend their money upon travellers, and in celebrating festivals; they are now forbid to spend their money upon travellers, and it is ordered that when reyuts are desirous of expending money in this way, they shall only be allowed to expend one pagoda out of one hundred in every village; there is no occasion for them to spend more.

* The Company's officers exercise a greater discretion, in collecting according to the means of the people.

Review of Books.

Travels of the Russian Mission through Mongolia to China, and Residence in Peking, in the years 1820-1821. By GEORGE TIMKOWSKI. London, 1827. 2 vols.

THIS is a translation of a work originally published in the Russian language, containing the particulars of a journey from Kiachta (the frontier town between Russia and China) to Peking, through Mongolia, performed by the Russian mission which is permitted by the Chinese Government to visit, once in ten years, that capital for the purpose of relieving the members of the Russian college established there by virtue of the treaty of 1728. The English translator, although he has not expressly declared so, leaves the reader to infer that it was made from the original, adopting only the alterations and retrenchments in the French edition. As far as our comparison has enabled us to judge, it is, however, merely a translation from the French. The English editor has avowed his *obligations* to "that profound oriental scholar," M. Klaproth, the commentator of the Paris edition, "in the difficult task of accommodating Asiatic proper names to European pronunciation;" that is to say, he has spelt those names according to French not English orthography, whereby they are rendered mostly unintelligible to a mere English reader. He has, moreover, adopted the French spelling of the Russian and Mongol words, profusely scattered throughout the work, and which, being seldom if ever accompanied by any index to their meaning, are so many stumbling-blocks to a person ignorant of those tongues.

A consideration of the circumstances connected with this work would fairly authorize us to expect, from a perusal of it, a material addition to our knowledge. Mr. Timkowski possessed advantages which to other travellers in China are denied. He belongs to a nation privileged in China; he resided in Peking for nearly six months; he was surrounded by individuals of his own country, skilled in the language, history, and manners of the Chinese; and he had full liberty to perambulate the city, and to inspect its numerous curiosities, without molestation. After his return, he took three years to compile this account of his travels, in which interval, it is apparent, he employed himself in examining most of the works on China extant in European languages. So much for the original author; next for his editors and commentators. The work was translated into the French language by a person who (as appears from the *Prospectus* of the Paris edition put forth in March 1826, and now before us) was better acquainted with Russian than with French. "We have had recourse," says the *Prospectus*, "to M. Eyriès, editor of the *Nouvelles Annales des Voyages*, to correct the style as well as the mistakes unavoidable by a translator, who is not familiar with the subject of the work which he is employed to render into another language." This was not all: "in order to render it (the translation) as perfect as possible," says the same document, "we have thought it essential to subject it to the revision of a scholar who was not only well acquainted with Russian, but who had made the Chinese language, and China itself, a principal object of his researches. We could apply to no better person than to M. Klaproth, who not only consented to undertake the revision, but has engaged to enrich it with valuable notes, and to rectify the errors which have escaped the author."

We fear our readers will hesitate to give us credit when we state, that with
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all these uncommon, and almost unexampled advantages, the work possesses little more novelty and interest than if it had been compiled (as great part of it is) from the publications of the missionaries and those of modern travellers.

A large portion of Mr. Timkowski's diary appeared in our journal two years ago,* translated from the Russian language. The details there given are a little more expanded in the work under review; but, on the other hand, the additional information is sometimes of the most trifling and frivolous kind. The only record on one day is that "a high west wind blew the whole day and raised clouds of dust;" on another, "that the birth-day of the Emperor Alexander was observed with every demonstration of respect," &c. These unimportant details are noted not on the journey, but during the author's residence at Peking.

Mr. Timkowski's route is traced on the map prefixed to the first volume of this work, and which is servilely copied from the French map (the longitudes being computed from the meridian of Paris); from whence it appears that after reaching Oorga, the mission did not pursue the post road (as it is termed) to Peking, but a route more easterly, through the country of the Kalkas, eastern Sounites, and Tsakars, till just before they reached the great wall, where they fell into the Oorga road. Of this celebrated barrier Mr. Timkowski gives a few particulars, some of which he has borrowed from Mr. Barrow. Its external line, he says, forms the wall of the town of Kalkan, although, in the map, it is placed about thirty-five wersts (for no scale of English measures is given) to the north of Kalkan.†

The wall is properly composed of two thin walls, the top of which is crenated; the interval is filled up with earth and gravel. The foundations consist of large unhewn stones; the rest of the wall is of brick; its height is twenty-six feet, and its breadth at the top, fourteen. Towers, on which there are many cast-iron cannon, are placed at about 100 paces from each other; the great tower is decayed from age; the gate is much damaged, as well as the adjacent wall. No care is now taken to keep it in repair.

Having accompanied the author to Peking, we examined the work with some eagerness for an account of this object of curiosity. We found a chapter in the second volume, consisting of seventy pages, entitled "a short description of Peking," to which is appended the following note by M. Klapproth:

This description of Peking is taken *almost entirely* from that of Father Gaubil, published at Paris, 1765. If this chapter did not make a necessary part of Mr. Timkowski's travels, I should have been inclined to omit it. However, it seemed natural that the reader should find, in a journey to Peking, a description of that capital, the author himself having thought fit to *translate* it, rather than write one himself. Mr. Timkowski, who so regularly quotes the authors from whom he borrows any thing, has forgotten on this occasion to name Father Gaubil.

This is certainly too bad. The Jesuit's description may be very accurate; but a writer who has visited such a place as Peking is expected to furnish his own report. Some of the contributions to the work, by other authors, seem to be retained without propriety in the present castrated translation; for, if we can trust M. Klapproth, they are full of errors. There is a geographical account of Tibet, at the end of the first volume, which seems to be printed for no other purpose than to afford occasion for notes, in almost every page, from M. Klapproth, such as these: "this is entirely a mistake;"—"this is an unpardonable fault;"—"this is all quite incorrect;"—"I give this article as it is
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* See *Asiat. Journ.* Vol. XIX, pp. 151, 235, 436 and 634.

† This error was observed by M. Klapproth.

in the original, and leave the reader the pleasure of understanding it," &c. &c. In pp. 461 and 465, Vol. I, we have two translations from the same Chinese original, one by M. Klaproth, the other by the Russian Archimandrite Hyacinth, who has resided for some time at Peking; and if they were not so long, we would exhibit them in contrast: there was never surely such discrepancy between translations before, except of Egyptian hieroglyphics. M. Klaproth says (of course) that he is right and Father Hyacinth is wrong. Indeed, he extends his censure still further in another part (I. 213), wherein he says, "in general, all the translations from the Chinese given in this work are incorrect."

As inaccuracies seem so abundant in this publication, whilst novelty and interest are so rare, and moreover as our journal has already been the medium of communicating many of the details furnished by Mr. Timkowski, we shall here take leave of the original author, expressing our disappointment and regret that his work contains so little to gratify curiosity.

We have, however, a word or two to say of his commentator. M. Klaproth is not remarkable for courtesy towards other writers; but in the present work he has displayed an unusual share of ill-humour. When we read as far as p. 70 of the second volume, we fancied we discovered the cause of it. Mr. Timkowski there states, that at Peking the Portuguese archbishop told him that "the literati of Europe, and particularly those of France, eagerly published works upon China, and on the Chinese and Mantchoo languages, without being sufficiently versed in the subjects of which they treated. They mentioned, particularly, Messieurs Deguignes, jun., and *Klaproth*." Mr. K. has appended to this passage two complimentary letters addressed to him by Mr. Timkowski, to shew (as he thinks) that the remarks of the Archbishop made no impression upon the traveller.

As one proof of the candour of this "profound orientalist," we quote his observations upon Dr. Morrison. Mr. Timkowski records, that whilst at Peking, Father Hyacinth showed him a Chinese dictionary, composed according to the Russian alphabet; and he adds (vol. i, p. 350): "The French and English literati have reaped before us in the field of Chinese literature. The dictionary of Deguignes, and still more that of Morrison, are works which reflect the highest honour on their authors." This commendation from an impartial, and, as M. Klaproth terms him, "enlightened" person, gives occasion to the following splenetic and illiberal note:

Mr. Timkowski here commits two serious mistakes. The dictionary published at Paris is not the work of Deguignes;* and the work of Mr. Morrison is no better than the other. It is, indeed, more voluminous, and contains more characters than that of Father Basil: but it is *full of faults*, which greatly diminish its utility, and render it very troublesome in use, because one is every moment obliged to refer to the Chinese originals, which Mr. Morrison has translated with inconceivable carelessness; *if, indeed, he is really the author of the work which he has published.*"

Similar evidence appears in p. 371 of the same volume, where the traveller is suggesting the political use which the English might make of the prejudice amongst the Tibetans respecting the regeneration of their lama, by contriving his revival in a person favourable to their views. M. Klaproth drops the following note at the foot of the passage:

I do not see what means the English could pursue to attain this object; those living at

* This, begging M. Klaproth's pardon, is a mere hypercriticism: M. Deguignes edited this dictionary, which was originally compiled by Father Basil. The above compliment may be therefore paid to him as editor only.

at Calcutta know so little of Tibet, that they have even believed, and printed in their journals, that the Tibetan language was spoken from Himalaya to the frontiers of Siberia.

Nearly all the correct information we possess respecting Tibet has been acquired of late years through Calcutta. We believe that the accusation against Dr. Morrison is as groundless, as the illiberal imputation cast in the above passage upon the English scholars at Calcutta.

A still more disingenuous attack, on the part of M. Klaproth, appears in his "Observations on the last Russian and English Embassies to China," in p. 128 of the first volume. He there states that Lord Amherst in 1816 had permission to appear before the Chinese emperor without making the nine prostrations: but that he acted "like a madman," and ruined, by a "puerile obstinacy," the success of his mission. He then gives the following as the facts:

After Lord Amherst had obtained the assurance that the Emperor dispensed him from the Ko-to, the Duke, and the other commissioners sent to receive him, intimated to him the order which they had to conduct him the next day from Thoung tcheou, where he then was, by way of Peking, to Yuan-ming yuan, a country seat, where the Emperor expected him to give him audience. The ambassador set out for Thoung tcheou on the 28th August, at four o'clock in the afternoon, in a magnificent landau, drawn by four mules. They reached the place of their destination at half-past four the following morning, where they found all the mandarins in their habits of ceremony. The latter told the English that they were going to be presented to the Emperor immediately. Lord Amherst, alleging extreme fatigue, refused to appear before the Chinese monarch in his travelling dress, and covered with dust. The Chinese commissioners, thinking that they had not sufficiently explained themselves respecting the ceremonies to be performed, and imagining that the refusal of the ambassador was founded on the apprehension that he would be compelled to make the nine prostrations, repeated several times the words *Ni men ti ly*; that is to say, Your own ceremony is all that is required. Lord Amherst, however, not reflecting that the Emperor and all his court was expecting him, persisted in waiting for his fine clothes, his suite, the presents, and the King of England's letter, which he had forgotten to bring with him in his landau, though such a document ought never to be out of the hands of the person who is entrusted with it. The Duke, who was to present him to the Emperor, took him by the arm, saying, "come, at least, into my apartment, where you will be more at ease than here in the crowd; you may rest there while I go to the Emperor and inform him of your desire." But Lord Amherst replied, that he was fatigued and ill, and that he would hear nothing of an audience till his suite and his baggage had arrived. In consequence, the ambassador was conducted to the hotel prepared for him. Some hours after the Emperor sent his physician to Lord Amherst to examine the state of his health; the Chinese *Æsculapius* having found him very well, made his report to the Son of Heaven, who immediately ordered the English embassy to be dismissed, because the head of it had deceived him, by feigning illness, at the moment when he was to be presented to him.

The Chinese government had the good sense to see in the conduct of this ambassador only a want of tact, and the blunder of an individual. It treated the English legation, on its return from Peking to Canton, with all possible attention and deference; and this incident has had no detrimental effect whatever on the trade of the Company at Canton.

From what source M. Klaproth has derived these *facts* we cannot surmise. They are justified neither by the statements in the publications of those gentlemen who attended Lord Amherst's embassy, nor by the edicts of the Emperor of China. M. Klaproth's previous statement, that the Chinese officers had waived at Teën-sing a compliance with the ceremony, should have

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been followed by another, namely, that an imperial edict was issued, previous to the arrival of the embassy at Peking, severely censuring the conduct of the mandarins in allowing it to proceed beyond Tcên-sing; and distinctly declaring that the emperor could not receive the ambassador unless he performed the ceremony. But this fact is disingenuously suppressed. Mr. Ellis observes, with respect to the imperial edict published subsequently to the dismissal of the embassy, that "no prospect whatever of the ceremony being dispensed with is held out, nor does such dispensation ever seem to have been contemplated." The fact now appears plainly to be, that the mandarins to whom was entrusted the introduction of the embassy at court, were determined to force Lord Amherst to submit to the ceremony, which the Emperor was given to understand his Lordship was prepared to comply with. The act which M. Klaproth describes, as "taking his Lordship by the arm in order to conduct him to another apartment," was nothing less than a brutal attempt to drag him into the presence chamber, where he would most probably have been compelled to undergo other humiliations. That the Emperor was deceived in the business is evident from the express declarations to that effect in his edicts, and from the degradation of the mandarins concerned. All these facts are concealed by M. Klaproth, whose object has been to detail such circumstances alone as are calculated to make the representative of the British nation appear in a disadvantageous point of view.

Karmath: an Arabian Tale. By the author of "*Rameses*," an Egyptian Tale, &c. &c. London, 1827, 8vo.

THIS historical novel is calculated to supply a void which is too frequently found, even in some of the best-informed minds in Europe, which are very ill furnished with accurate notions respecting Arabian history. The mystical superstitions and fanatical doctrines which have heretofore prevailed in Arabia, and continue to a certain degree to exert an influence there, and which are linked with historical traditions, share the same fate, that of being neglected in Europe or totally misunderstood. "It may be doubted," says the author of the work before us, "whether the very extraordinary rise and character of the Karmates and Ismaélians, of the time of the caliphs, have been sufficiently noticed or developed by historians to the general reader; hitherto these tremendous Sectarians have been overlooked, and the interest attached to their existence, most commonly bounded to the Episodical portion, known to us in the epoch of the Crusades, when the emissaries of the 'Old Man of the Mountains,' the Sheik al Julleel, attempted the life of Edward I., and actually slew others of the Crusaders. These enthusiasts were, however, merely a corollary link of a most formidable community, established and rooted at a much earlier period in Mazanderan; so firmly settled are its roots in the mystic tenets of Islamism, that its doctrines are still existing in Arabia; and even in Egypt, in the nineteenth century, a rebellion against the French was headed by an impostor, assuming the title and denomination of their long-expected deliverer, the prophet El Mahdi."

The object of this little work (yet incomplete) is to mingle profit with pleasure, and to illustrate the traditionary lore of Arabia, which abounds with magical tales and the dark deeds of sorcerers, by weaving into a very interesting story such particulars as bear a close affinity to history, in respect to events and persons, and to impress the reader's mind with a picture of what Arabia was at the age when the transactions are supposed to have taken place, namely,

namely, the reign of the illustrious Harûn-al-Raschid, whose last days were clouded by dark and mysterious events, which the sequel of the tale before us (we are told) explain.

The sect of the Karmates are thus traced by our author :

It is already said that Mahommed, at least publicly, fixed on no successor ; that Ali, his natural heir, his son-in-law, relation, and faithful disciple, yielded up his claims ; that he came to the sceptre late in life, only to experience ingratitude, revolt, and a violent death ; and transmitted his claims and his misfortunes to his two most amiable and most ill-fated sons. Although they perished miserably, the descendants of Fatima were numerous, and crowds of Moslems were always athirst to repay, by the most unbounded devotion to that ill-fated race, a reverence and homage of pity for the dreadful destiny of their adored Ali ; no imaginations, however extravagant, were disregarded by the natives of Al-Giuf. Indeed, throughout all the eastern provinces of Islamism, the name of Ali served for a rallying point for *all the discontented*, and for *all the turbulent* who desired *changes and revolutions*. A species of adoration had prevailed during the lifetime of Ali, and even then Ebn Alaswad Saba laid the foundation of a refined and esoteric spirit of initiation, subtle, secret, and deeply rooted, which spread over the east, which connected together bands and denominations of Mahommed's followers of most dissimilar views, and which, repeatedly, has shaken the whole east with its bloody struggles. Ebn Saba was a prime instigator of the *seditions movements* which cost the caliph Omar his throne and his life. He taught that the Imaunat, or the sacerdotal authority, devolved by right, as well as by a formal act of Mahommed, on his son-in-law Ali, the spouse of Fatima—that on him rested a *ray of divinity*—that he was *not dead*, but that he had only *withdrawn himself* for a time from the eyes of men—that he would one day *reappear on the earth*, and render it as celebrated for justice, as now it was become infamous for iniquity and injustice.

This mysterious dogma has grounded itself, more or less, amid every conflicting sect of the east : some have enlarged the number of the Imauns, but all have yielded implicit faith to the sacred character of Ali. The Shiites, or Persians, who teach that twelve Imauns succeeded by natural descent to the revered Ali, inculcate likewise that the *last is not dead, but concealed*, and one day he will reappear to revive the purity of religion. By the depth of their ratiocinations they also endeavour to demonstrate *the whole series of the twelve doctors* to be no more than the *one and the same being, successively disappearing, and assuming a fresh body*, as the vicar or same teacher. But another sect, and to these in particular are the events which follow referable, contract the number of these Imauns to seven only ; these are the Ismaélians, among whom the Karmates are so distinguished for the most perfect contempt of danger and death, and for their devastations and sacrileges, that they may be divided into three epochs : from the first secret roots of their origin, and the profound artifices with which their doctrines were disseminated and spread in Arabia, to the reign of Harûn al Raschid, when (Arabia settled in peace, the fine arts expanding, and public feelings watched by the jealous and watchful eye of that renowned caliph) he detected the germs of this formidable association, which his sagacity foresaw might overshadow his throne. Harûn, however, knew not the wide-spread, nor the character, nor the twisted roots of that parasite plant, which crept up as the baneful ivy around the wide-spreading umbrage of the palm of Haschemya. Destiny gave it the same existence as its proud and imperious oppressors, the royal and sacred Abassidæ. It strengthened in great power and triumphant wickedness, from the foundation of its tenets, into a concocted form, in the third Hegira ; until, in the 650th year of the Hegira, the sword of Hulaku, the descendant of Genghis Khan, put an end at the same epoch, to the caliphs and the Ismaélians ; that catastrophe, however, followed at a very distant period. This formidable and extraordinary sect broke forth under the rule of Harûn ; their commencement and progress, the marvellous circumstances connected with the appearance of Karmath on the banks of the Euphrates, are become facts known amid the natives of El Shammar. The tent which is pitched in Al-Giuf resounds with the exclamations

exclamations and groans of the impassioned auditors, as they hear the thrilling detail of the awful sacrifice made in the ruins of Babylon to the deity of fire.

Karmath, or Hassun Saba, of Kufa, is the hero of this tale; and the author has displayed no little skill in the portraiture of this sorcerer, whose only passion was revenge. He is represented as carrying on extensive projects and desperate designs for the gratification of that diabolical passion, by means which mortals alone could not counteract. His vast influence, obtained by counterfeiting virtues which he detested in his heart, by charity, humility, and even by the gratuitous practice of great medical skill,—the moral influence secured by these means was aided by his connexion with the evil beings who are supposed by the Arabs to be engaged in hostility with heaven, and whose dark and mysterious orgies are transacted in the infernal caverns of Hillah, where the black and blasted piles of Babylon appear, on the banks of the Phrat, or Euphrates. This is the scene of the story.

Karmath had a son, Heman, who was an idiot, and incapable of employing the power and wealth which his father was able to bequeath to him. To restore this son to rationality, and at the same time to further his political designs, Karmath prepares to sacrifice two youths, whom he had educated in his family, to the deity of fire. By the interposition of a good genius (Zephon) these two youths, who are named Jamī and Adalia, learn their history, which had been studiously concealed from them by Karmath, and the fate to which they are doomed by this cruel sorcerer. Jamī, under the protection of this celestial auxiliary, is permitted, beneath the form of Karmath's slave Hassarac, the agent of his sorceries, to visit the tremendous scene of the magical rites and incantations; and by the dexterous contrivances and resolute courage of Jamī, under the tuition of the genius, Karmath is made to substitute his own son as a victim to glut the greedy appetite of the spirit of fire.

We should have been glad if we could afford space for the insertion of the passage, which contains a powerful description of the infernal scene of the magical rites; but it is too long. We subjoin an extract from that part of the work where the just retribution, to which we have alluded, falls upon Karmath, or Hassun, as he is now called:

At the rolling peals of their dread charms the cavern shook, and appeared to rock in trembling terror of their potent spells. "Hassun they praised—him they extolled—the powerful, the chief of magic Araby; henceforth subjected to his sway—him, wise and greatest of her race, who had won the gift of wisdom for his son, henceforth renowned on earth." Thus they sung, while Jamī, motionless, stood by the insensible form, lifting up his heart in eager aspirations for support.

Hassun appeared in the midst of the awful scene, and now before him arose the altar which Jamī had seen in the caverns of the Kasr. With loud acclaim it rose, and the teraph, flashing from its ghastly eyes a dismal light, glared pale and deadly from the ribbed rock. Fronting the altar, the flame, as if eager for its prey, and never propitiated but with blood, streamed upward on the altar, majestically bright and clear. The moment arrived, the jarring discord ceased, and silence deep and solemn succeeded, while Hassun, wearing the mystical magi robes, advanced first to the golden couch; placing his hand upon the veiled sacrifice, he then turned toward the altar, and devoted him to the God of Fire! Songs of triumph again arose, extolling Hassun's faith—"He was worthy to wear and to wield the talismans of the preadamite kings! the greatest of the mysterious sovereigns resembled him in fate! Thus must all his enemies fall before him!" The cup of charmed potency, their pledge, then passed around, from which Hassun no sooner withdrew his lips, than sprinkling a few drops upon the altar's flame, it spread in wavy brilliancy, rolling around its bickering flames. The sounds and songs of triumph died away, the mysterious thunders paused, and silence,

silence, death-like and solemn, fell around on all. The pause lasted—and Jami scarcely sustained its pressure on his heart, when Hassun approached, and thus muttered forth the spell, which his deep-toned voice echoed amid the arched caverns around.

“Great God of Fire, receive a noble victim, the youth Adalia—bear him to thy flames! intoxicate with spells of potency, he reels under thy charmed draught, and voluntarily bends to thy influence! Seize him, ye flames, mix his form with thy primeval elements! receive him as the homage of my heart! Sacrifice! awake! arise!”

Hassun, standing before the altar, with impassioned gestures, waving his wand, at length gently touched the shrouded form; it stirred—it moved—and shaking off the enchanter's sleep and covering veil, a universal shriek rent the cave, of “Heman! Heman!” as Heman stood before them; and while, in speechless surprise, and agony, the wretched Hassun gazed on his son, Heman exclaimed—“Victim of the spell, I come to fulfil thy rites! O fire! I come to adore thy power!”

There is a pleasing love tale interwoven in the story, which increases its interest; and we think that the reader of “Karmath” will join us in feeling an anxiety to learn the sequel.

Human Sacrifices in India. Substance of the Speech of John Poynder, Esq., at the Courts of Proprietors of East-India Stock, held on the 21st and 28th Days of March 1827.

As our last number contained a very copious report of the debate on the subject of Burning of Hindoo widows, of which Mr. Poynder's speech occupies a considerable portion, we have no occasion to analyze this publication; we are, however, desirous of recommending it, as an able and comprehensive digest of a most voluminous collection of public documents, respecting a topic of equal importance and difficulty. The speech of Mr. Poynder, thus authenticated, is moreover valuable as an index of the feelings entertained, concerning the mode of dealing with this abominable custom, by the party (we do not use the term in an invidious sense) who seem in some respects opposed to the views of the Indian Government therein, and who evidently contemplate at some period the introduction of measures, not of force, but partaking of a compulsory character, to effectuate its extinction.

As this question will undergo another solemn discussion before the representatives of the British nation, and as there has been recently laid before Parliament another volume of documents, now printing, some of which, we understand, are of great interest and importance, and exhibit the subject in rather a different point of view than it has hitherto been seen; we shall probably have occasion to revert to it, at a future time, when Mr. Poynder's elaborate speech will afford us considerable aid.

The Adventures of Naufragus. Written by himself. London, 8vo. 1827.

THIS work is declared to be “a faithful narrative of the trials and adventures of a man, who, feeling that his course had been no common one, and conceiving that a published record of it may be useful to others, as the experience which it has afforded has been useful to him, cannot withhold it from the public.” It relates the adventures of the author in various voyages and travels in the East, and gives accurate descriptions of the places visited. As a detail of real occurrences it may perhaps be read with more interest than it would, we think, be likely to create as a work of fiction.

Chronological Records of the British Royal and Commercial Navy, from the earliest period (A. D. 827) to the present time (1827), founded on Official Documents, &c. By CESAR MOREAU, Esq. London, lithographed, 1827.

Past and Present State of the Navigation between Great Britain and all parts of the World. By the same author.

We are here presented with further evidence of the extraordinary industry and powers of M. Moreau. It is impossible to survey superficially the mass of matter here brought together, arranged, methodized, and perspicuously disposed, comprehending our maritime history for the *last thousand years*, even to the most minute details, without being astonished at the courage of an individual, a foreigner too, who has dared to undertake, and who has succeeded in so short a space of time in accomplishing, works like these, particularly the former.

To attempt any thing like an analysis or epitome of the work would demand talents like his own. As a matter of curiosity we subjoin a statement of the navigation of England in the year 1693.

	Merchant Ships entering Inwards.			Merchant Ships clearing Outwards.		
	English.	Foreign.	Total.	English.	Foreign.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
London ...	36,512	80,875	117,387	44,912	59,750	104,662
Out-ports	32,616	27,876	60,492	73,176	28,752	101,928
Total	69,128	108,751	177,879	118,088	88,502	206,590

We now contrast this statement with another, shewing the navigation of England in 1825, comprehending British and Irish vessels under the head of English :

In all the Ports }	Merchant Ships entering Inwards.			Merchant Ships clearing Outwards.		
	English.	Foreign.	Total.	English.	Foreign.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
	2,786,844	892,601	3,679,445	2,262,458	851,354	3,113,812

Total tonnage in 1693, viz. English...187,216

foreign ...197,253

384,469

Total tonnage in 1825, viz. English 5,049,302

foreign 1,743,955

6,793,257

This account shows that the navigation of Great Britain has increased nearly six millions and a half of tons during the interval of 132 years; and that in the former of the two years mentioned, which was thirty-three years after the passing of the Navigation Act, foreign tonnage exceeded the British nearly nineteen per cent.; in 1825, on the contrary, the British exceeded the foreign not far short of one hundred per cent.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

May 5, 1827.—A General Meeting was held this day at two o'clock; Henry Thos. Colebrooke, Esq., director, in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The following donations were presented :—

A complete set of the *Asiatick Researches*, viz. from Lieut. Col. Doyle, H. T. Colebrooke, Esq., and the Asiatick Society; from Daniel Stuart, Esq., Dow's *Hindustan*; from J. E. Alexander, Esq., his *Travels from India to England*; from Thos. Hope, Esq., his *Anastasius*; from the hon. East-India Company, ten sheets of the *Indian Atlas*, now in preparation; from M. Julien, *Meng tseu*, Part II; from the Church Missionary Society, St. Matthew's Gospel in Singalese, and two Singalese grammars; from the Royal Humane Society, their fifty-third Annual Report, 1827; from J. Guillemard, Esq., *Dizionario Italiano-Armeno-Turco*; from César Moreau, Esq., his *British Navigation*.

Lieut. Col. Martin White was admitted a Member of the Society.

John Matson, Esq., and Edward Upham, Esq., were elected Members of the Society.

The reading of Mr. Colebrooke's paper on the Vedanta Philosophy was concluded; and thanks were returned to him for the communication.

May 19, 1827.—The General Meeting was held this day at the usual hour; the director of the Society in the chair.

The minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

Donations were presented

From the Société de Géographie, their *Bulletin*, Nos. 33 to 46; from Professor Schlegel, his *Indische Bibliothek*, Vol. 2, Parts 2, 3, 4; from Dr. Wilkins, the *Ruins of Gour*, by Creighton; from Professor Bërggren, his *Dictionnaire Abrégé Française-Arabe* and *Resor i Europa och Osterlanderne*.

Capt. Marryat, R.N., C.B., was elected an Honorary Member of the Society.

Capt. M. has deposited his unique collection of Burmese curiosities in the Society's house, for exhibition: among them are a shrine and figure of *Gautâma*, and a figure of Alumpra, the founder of the present Burmese dynasty, in metal, gilt, and studded with jewels. A gold Woonghee-chain of the second order, and a large sapphire ring, with a carved tusk of the sacred white elephant, are also comprised in this collection.

Their excellencies the Prince de Lieven, Russian Ambassador, and Baron Stierneld, Swedish Ambassador, and M. Théologue, were elected Foreign Members of the Society.

J. Crompton, Esq., and T. Y. Learmouth, Esq., were elected Resident Members.

A paper by Dr. Whitclaw Ainslie, on the small-pox and inoculation in eastern countries, with an account of the introduction of vaccination into India, was begun to be read. After an introductory view of the different statements as to the country in which small-pox had its origin, Dr. A. proceeds to notice the principal medical writers of antiquity, who noticed this disease in their works, and the methods of treatment resorted to by the natives of India. In the course of the treatise, Dr. A. remarks that the manner in which the *emphyesis variola*, or small-pox, was first originated, sets all conjecture at defiance;

and that there is a singularity regarding it, which it must be difficult to account for, namely, that, although nothing but variolous matter has the effect of generating the disease, it appears to be more prevalent at some seasons than at others, as if its appearance was dependant on a peculiar state of the air; an idea, however, which was held very cheap by Dr. Woodville and others. The part of this paper which was read at this day's meeting, concludes with an account of the mode of inoculation practised among the Worriahs, in the Ganjam Circar.

It was announced that the next General Meeting would be held on the 16th of June.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LONDON.

Ju-Kiao-li, or the Two Fair Cousins; a Chinese Novel. 2 vols. 12mo. 14s.

A Grammar of the Hebrew Language, comprised in a Series of Lectures, compiled from the best Authorities, and augmented with much Original Matter, drawn principally from Oriental Sources. By the Rev. S. Lee, A.M., &c. 8vo. 10s.

The Shipwreck, a Tale of Arabia; and other Poems. By A. E. P. 12mo. 7s.

A Letter on the Government of the Cape of Good Hope, and on certain Events which have occurred there of late years, under the administration of Lord Charles Somerset, addressed most respectfully to Earl Bathurst. By Lieut. Gen. Sir Rufane Donkin. 3s.

Karmath, an Arabian Tale. By the Author of "Rameses."

Five Years' Residence in Buenos Ayres during the years 1820 to 1825, containing Remarks on the Country and its Inhabitants, and a Visit to Colonia Dal Sacramento. By an Englishman. 8vo. 5s.

Travels from India to England, comprehending a visit to the Burman Empire, and a Journey through Persia, Asia Minor, European Turkey, &c., in the Years 1825-26. By J. E. Alexander, Esq. In 4to., illustrated with Maps and Coloured Lithographic Prints. £1. 11s. 6d.

Davidica; Twelve Practical Sermons on the Life and Character of David, King of Israel. By H. Thompson, M.A. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

A Charge delivered to the Clergy of the Diocese of Calcutta, at Calcutta, the 27th May 1824; at Bombay, the 29th April 1825; and at Madras, the 10th March 1826; at the Primary Visitation of the Right Rev. Father in God, Reginald Heber, D.D., Lord Bishop of Calcutta. 4to. 3s.

Jubal, a Dramatic Poem. By R. M. Beverley, Esq. Post 8vo. 8s.

Some Observations on the Medicinal and Dietetic properties of Green Tea. By W. Newnham, Esq. 1s. 6d. sewed.

The Roman History, by G. B. Niebuhr; translated from the German by F. A. Walter, Esq., F.R.S.L., one of the Librarians of the British Museum. Maps, 2 vols. 8vo. £1. 4s.

Travels of the Russian Mission through Mongolia to China, and residence in Peking, in the years 1820-21. By Geo. Tinkowski; with Corrections and Notes by J. Von Klaproth. 2 vols. 8vo. £1. 10s.

The Adventures of Naufragus, written by himself; giving a lively Account of his Voyages, Shipwrecks, and Travels, from his first outset as a Midshipman in the East-India Company's Service, until he became a Commander in the Indian Seas. 8vo. 8s.

Substance of the Speech of J. Poynder, Esq., at the Courts of Proprietors of East-India Stock, held on the 21st and 28th days of March 1827. 8vo. 6s.

In the Press.

The Subaltern's Log Book during two Voyages to India, and Eighteen Years' Observation on Land and Water.

Transactions of the Literary Society of Madras. 4to. with Plates.

A Supplement to Howell and Stewart's Oriental and Biblical Catalogue.

PARIS.

Ching-Kong, Gouverneur du Jeune prince Kou-kouli: lettres Chinoises. 12mo. 2 fr.

Le Livre de Job, traduit en vers Français, avec le texte de la Vulgate en regard, suivi de notes explicatives, par H. M. St. Levasseur. 8vo. 5 fr.

Sainte-Hélène, ou Souvenirs d'un Voyage aux Grandes-Indes; poëme, par E. Charrière. 8vo. 1 fr.

Carte de la Palestine, pour servir à l'intelligence des Saintes Ecritures, et particulièrement à l'histoire de Notre Seigneur J.-C.; dressée par A. H. Dufour. 7 fr.

Observations Grammaticales sur quelques passages de l'Essai sur le Pali, de M. M. E. Burnouf et Lassen; par E. Burnouf. 8vo.

Doctrine et Devoirs de la Religion Musulmane, tirés textuellement du Coran, suivis de l'Europe Musulman; traduit de l'Arabe par M. Garcin de Tassy. 18mo. 4 fr.

CALCUTTA.

The Indigo Planter's Manual, or Guide to the Purchases and Sales of Indigo for the year 1825-26, with an estimate of the crop of 1826-27; compiled and arranged by Ezekiel Mushtee, broker (to be continued annually). 4to. 12 rs.

Sacred Lemmas, being Analyses of Scriptures, Historical, Prophetical, and Evangelical, according to the Science of Analogies. By G. M. Paterson, M.D., Assist-Surg., Bengal Medical Establishment. 5 rs.

Transactions of the Calcutta Medical and Physical Society, Vol. II., containing Cases and Observations on Medical and Physical Science. 8vo.

Theatre of the Hindus, No. IV., containing "The Uttara Rama Cheritra," or continuation of the History of Rama; translated from the Original Sanscrit by H. H. Wilson, Esq. 4 rs.

A Panoramic View of the City of Benares, taken by J. Dalrymple, Esq., measuring 11 feet long by 1 foot wide, mounted on fine cloth and folded in such a style as to form either a folio Volume, or be extended as one Plate at pleasure. 16 rs.

In the Press.

The Bengal Ready Calculator, containing several useful Cast-up Tables, adapted for the use of Merchants, Agents, and Private Gentlemen. By J. R. Tucker.

Notes on the Epidemic Cholera. By R. H. Kennedy, M.D., Surgeon, Bombay Presidency, &c. 8vo.

A Picture of Calcutta, and Complete Strangers' Guide; containing a Map of the City of Calcutta and its Environs, with a Short History of its Rise and Progress; References to, and Descriptions of all the Public Buildings, Government Offices, Banks, Principal Agency Houses, Printing Offices, Auctions, &c. in and within Sixteen Miles of the Metropolis.

VARIETIES.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of this Society was held on the 3d January; the hon. J. H. Harington, Esq., President, in the chair.

A great variety of donations, chiefly Burmese idols and MSS., together with some works from Europe, were presented.

A letter from Mr. Hodgson to Mr. Bayley, was then read, giving an outline of the theocracy of the Bauddha system of Nepal. In other countries, following the Bauddha creed, it does not appear that there are any beings recognised as superior to Gautama and the other Buddhas, although they are avowedly of mortal origin and human nature. There are spiritual and celestial beings, Brahmas and Nats, but in the scale of purity and in the ultimate object of exemption from future birth they are very inferior to the genuine Buddha. This, there is reason to believe, is the original and most unsophisticated system of Buddhism; but in every country different innovations have been grafted on the primitive stem, and in none apparently has this been carried farther than in Nepal. The same modification probably prevails throughout Tibet and the regions which thence derived their creed, or China and Japan, in which we know a vast number of divinities share the popular adoration with Fo or Buddha. When these additions to the primitive stock occurred is yet matter of inquiry, but they savour strongly of Manichæism. According to the information now communicated, the Northern Bauddhas acknowledge four sets of divine beings or of superhuman objects of veneration. The first of these is, contrary to the generally supposed atheistical tendency of the faith, one primæval and uncreated deity. This first Buddha manifested five of his attributes, as five secondary Buddhas, in one of whom, *Amitābha*, or the 'immeasurably splendid,' in Prakrit and Pali, *Amitāho*, we recognise the *Amida* of the Japanese. From these five personifications five other Buddhas or Bodhi-satwas were produced, by whom the active duties of creation were performed, and amongst the created beings occur the human Buddhas and Bodhi-satwas, of the first of whom there are seven principal, and the latter of whom are infinite; including every person of exalted piety, by which indeed the individual may become a living Buddha, such as the Lama of Lassa is supposed to be. The Buddhas consequently are not restricted to any particular number any more than the Bodhi-satwas, and all theories resting upon the individuality of Buddha are utterly overthrown.

—[Cal. Gov. Gaz. Jan. 11.]

CALCUTTA MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of this society was held on the 2d December; Mr. Wilson, the vice-president, in the chair.

A note from Mr. Royle was read, mentioning his having lately visited the site of the experimental medical garden on the Musoorree Table, where rhubarb, henbane, and *acorus calamus* were flourishing, and had been found of superior quality. The thermometer was below 50° in the morning, and not 60° in the forenoon.

Mr. Leslie's paper on gangrenous ulcer was then read, and made the subject of comment. The disease broke out amongst the men of the 65th Bengal N.I., about a month after their arrival at Pinang, in August 1825. It spread with prodigious rapidity, and above ninety cases were in hospital in the course of December. A medical committee having been assembled, recommended change of situation; and an hospital was accordingly constructed on the summit of one of the hills, to which the sick were removed, to the number of 100, by the end of January. The removal appears to have been attended with good effects, and although many cases proved fatal, few or no fresh cases occurred, whilst many recovered. In April, the weather becoming unfavourable, the men still uncured returned to the Line Hospital, where the disease was gradually subdued, although not without the ultimate loss of many lives. In all the worst cases medical treatment was wholly unavailing, and amputation, which was partially successful, afforded the only prospect of preserving life.

The sudden and rapid progress of this disease, although not unprecedented in other situations, suggested to Mr. Leslie the necessity of offering some observations on the medical topography of the island, especially as regards the cantonments. Fort Cornwallis, he observes, is situated at the eastern extremity of a tongue of land, stretching towards the Malay coast, distant from it one mile and a half to two miles, and low and jungly for some distance inland. On the west, the land is bounded by a range of hills, which thus form a triangular level space from twenty to thirty miles in extent, on which are situated the town and cantonments, the former extending along the shore. About three-quarters of a mile from the fort is the outlet of a small river, along which the tide rises several feet, inundating the banks, and leaving numerous stagnant pools at ebb. Over the whole area of the

• low

low land, pools of stagnant water are frequent after extensive rain, and the jungle is abundant. The parade and hospitals are about three miles inland from the fort, where a space of about a mile square has been cleared for them. The hospitals are much out of repair, and the ground in their vicinity having little slope is imperfectly drained. Although the topography of this part of Pinang may fail to explain the peculiar form in which disease manifested itself on this occasion, it does not seem calculated to restore health to those who repair thither in quest of it, and several circumstances have lately inspired strong doubts of its salubrity under any circumstances. These, however, may have arisen from individuals having been unable to quit the low level, through the want of facilities to ascend to the more elevated spots on the adjacent hills, on which alone a restorative influence can be hoped for from the air of Pinang, and which facilities, we understand, are no longer within the reach of invalids visiting the island.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*]

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF PARIS.

M. Silvestre de Sacy read a report respecting an application made by Mr. Freytag for pecuniary assistance from the society towards the expense of printing the Arabic text of the *Humāsa*, with the commentary of Tabrizi. The recommendations in the report, which declared the utility of the work, were adopted. The committee of finance was directed to consider of the means at the disposal of the society for contributing to the publication of Mr. Freytag's work.

M. Amédée Jaubert read a notice of a MS. of the *Bakhtār Nāmāh*, written in Ouzgour, belonging to the library at Oxford.

Count Hauteville, in the name of his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, presented several works to the society, amongst which was the *Asiatic Journal*, Nos. 132 and 133.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

At a late meeting of this institution, a large meteoric stone was placed on the library table, with a particular account of its fall, in the Persian language. This was translated by Dr. Wilkins. The stone fell in the night of the 7th of August 1822, near the village of Kadonah, in the district of Agra. It descended with much noise as of cannon and of the wind, awakening those who were asleep, and alarming a watchman who heard it fall. On making a search in the morning, the stone was found warm, and with little smoke rising from it. It is to be subjected to examination.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Anniversary Meeting of this Society took place on May 19; the Marquess of Lansdown, President, in the chair. The meeting was very numerously attended. Amongst other distinguished supporters of the establishment, we noticed Earls Spencer, Malmesbury and Carnarvon, Lord Auckland, Marquis Carmarthen, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Sir E. Home, Sir R. Heron, M. P., Sir T. D. Acland, Bart., Sir J. De Beauvoir, Mr. Baring Wall, M. P., &c. &c. The president having adverted, with much feeling and effect, to the vacancy occasioned by the lamented death of the late president, and his own accession to that office, reported to the meeting the progress of the Society during the past year; from which it appeared that the museum had been enriched by numerous and valuable donations; amongst the most conspicuous of these was particularized a female ostrich from his Majesty. The magnificent collection of the late Sir Thos. Stamford Raffles, consisting of mammalia, birds, reptiles, insects, zoophytes, &c. has also been transferred to the Society. The president further informed the meeting that the works in the Regent's Park are rapidly advancing; the walks have been laid out and partly executed, and some pheasantries and aviaries, with sheds and enclosures for some of the rarer animals belonging to the Society, are in active progress. It is expected that the gardens will possess sufficient interest to authorize the opening of them during the ensuing autumn. The president then announced that the number of subscribers exceeds 500, and that the list is daily increasing. He also gave a highly favourable report of the funds of the Society, which, after defraying all charges attending upon the various works in progress, leave a considerable and increasing balance in the bankers' hands.

PRICES OF LABOUR AND FOOD IN THE ROMAN EMPIRE.

It appears from the edict of Diocletian, A. D. 303 (lately discovered), for fixing the prices of labour and food throughout the empire, that Roman barristers were not ill paid: the fee for a motion was about £2. 8s. 9d. of our money; at hearing of the cause, £9. 7s. 6d. The charge of a barber for each person was 4½d. A *mulomedicus*, or farrier, for cropping and shoeing an animal, had about 1s. 1½d. A professor of architecture gave lessons for 18s. 9d. *per mensem*. The price of food seems to have been extremely high. Meat was to be sold at the following rates per pound Roman, equal to nearly 1½ oz. Troy: viz. beef, 1s. 6d.; mutton, 1s. 6d.; lamb, 2s. 3d.; pork, 2s. 3d.; pigs' feet, 9d. each; a sausage (*isicium*) of fresh pork,

an ounce in weight, 4½d.; a fat male peacock (for the table) was £2. 8s. 9d., the fee of a Roman counsel !

THE ISLAND OF RAMREE.

We are favoured with an account from the pen of Commodore Hayes, of the circumnavigation of Ramree, by the H.C. gun-pinnace *Osprey*, which has established the fact of its being an island, before somewhat doubted. We subjoin an abridgement of it.

The *Osprey* left Amherst Harbour, and after having passed to the N.E. of Ramree, through Hastings' Harbour and the channels to the E. of Great Division Island, to the mouth of the passages leading to Aeng, Talak, and Arracan, a great opening was perceived to the W., with the flood tide coming in from that direction with considerable force, and it was concluded that it formed the straits to sea. The great entrance of the only creek which communicates with the capital of Ramree, lies about two miles to the S. of the N.E. point of the island, which forms the S. boundary of Hastings' Harbour. About a quarter of a mile to the N. *Osprey* creek appears, which runs into the Ramree creek about midway between the great entrance and the capital, with which there is no communication by water but through these two passages. About the centre of Hastings' Harbour, on the Ramree side, stands a rocky mount, at the base of which, facing the harbour, is a deep excavation, trenched and mounded all round by the removal of blocks of sand-stone, the surrounding hollow being filled with spring and rain water.

At the N. extremity of Hastings' Harbour lies a ridge of straggling rocks, to the eastward of which a large passage takes its course to Mae; to the W. of it lies the entrance of the large passage which runs along the E. side of Great Division or Commodore's Island, through which channel all vessels of burthen pass into Fletcher Hayes' straits, towards Aeng, Talak, Arracan, and Combermere Bay, which brings them to sea. W. of Rocky Ridge lies the boat channel to the above-mentioned place. Entering the large Passage, or Que-chong-long, from the S., Mae is on the right. Entering the straits many interesting objects appear, lofty mountains, numerous islands, many openings, &c. so that a stranger placed within the entrance of the strait from seaward would be utterly at a loss which way to turn within this natural labyrinth.

Proceeding to the W., the *Osprey* anchored between Rocky Island and the islands running along the N. side of Mew-chong-dong mountains. From this station they proceeded to Quoin island, and westward to their first anchorage on the N.

coast of Ramree. They then worked along the shore within the innermost of the three islands, named Jakthwa-Gewlin, and anchored near the Three Brothers, remarkable hills rising from a solid base of rock just above water. Thence they proceeded through the straits, to Great Passage Island point, and keeping to the W. reached a bay, and working to seaward, anchored off the N. sandy point of Ramree, where is a fine clear branch which extends inwards about two miles to the creek Keow-que-chong. From this creek they returned into the centre of the straits, taking a course to the N. of the Three Islands, and anchored off Callagewin Island, which affords cattle, water, and fruit. They were then proceeding again to Allee Chou Creek, when a storm obliged them to return to Hastings' Harbour. The account concludes; "I have not deemed it necessary to say any thing about the soundings or bearings taken in the straits, as the chart fully exhibits the whole for the safe guidance of all navigators, passing into or out of the straits in question. There is good, clear and fast-holding anchorage ground throughout the straits; and coming in from sea or Combermere Bay, when half-way between the large or outer saddle and tower and pagoda rock, your course is E. into the straits, within which you may anchor in safety where you please.

"John Hayes, Commodore."

"P.S. The tide rises at full and change fourteen feet in the straits, channels, rivers, and harbours on this coast."

PALI AND CINGALESE MANUSCRIPTS.

We notice the following paragraph in the last number of the *Journal Asiatique* of Paris: "The cabinet of MSS. in the King's library (at Paris) is about to acquire the precious collection of Pali and Cingalese MSS. made by the late Mr. Tolfrey, one of the translators of the New Testament into Pali. It consists of 28 Pali and Cingalese works, some of which are extremely voluminous. Amongst the Pali MSS. are, 1. a vocabulary, on the plan of the *Amera Cosha*, entitled *Abhidinappulpika*, or "illustration of words," a work of great importance towards acquiring a knowledge of Pali. 2. A collection of the laws and customs of the Bauddhists, entitled *Paddhati sangaha*, or "abridgment of the ritual." 3. A collection of the *Sutras* or fundamental axioms of the Bauddhist philosophy. All these works are accompanied by a very ample commentary in Cingalese. Amongst the books written in the latter tongue, are several grammatical treatises, a brief vocabulary, Sanscrit and Cingalese, poems in the various dialects of Ceylon, &c. This new acquisition, which we owe to the enlightened zeal of the keeper of the oriental manuscripts, is the more valuable, because

cause the royal library does not yet possess a single Cingalese work, and because it moreover offers to those persons who devote themselves to Pali the means of prosecuting their studies with more success, and also with more facility."

Why this collection should have found its way to Paris rather than London we are yet to learn.

THE DUKE OF YORK'S ORIENTAL ARMOUR.

At the sale of the late Duke of York's property, a most interesting oriental suit of armour, formed of four plates of buffalo's hide, covered with Arabic inscriptions in gold characters, connected by a thick quilting of black velvet, ornamented with gilt studs, and lined with splendid furniture, was purchased by Dr. Meyrick. It was erroneously called Japanese, and obtained a price trifling in comparison with its curiosity.

PHENOMENON OBSERVED AT THE NEELGHERRY HILLS.

A correspondent in an Indian newspaper makes the following observations on the rarity of the atmosphere on the Neelgherries, or Blue Mountains of Coimbatour:—

"The great extent to which the sound of the voice is conveyed may be mentioned in proof of the extreme rarity of this atmosphere. A similar observation is made by Captain Parry in his voyage of discovery to the polar regions in 1819-20 (p. 125), where he states, that in the depth of winter, the sound of the men's voices was heard at a much greater distance than usual. This phenomenon is constantly observed on the Neelgherries. I have heard the natives, especially in the morning and evening when the air was still, carry on conversations from one hill to another, and that apparently without any extraordinary effort. They do not shout in the manner that strangers think necessary in order to be heard at so great a distance, but utter every syllable as distinctly as if they were conversing face to face. When listening to them I have often been reminded of those passages of Holy Writ, where it is recorded that Jotham addressed the ungrateful men of Shechem from mount Gerizim (Judges 9, 7—20); that David cried from "the top of an hill afar off" to Abner and to the people that lay about their master Saul (1st Sam. 26, 13); and that Abner addressed Joab from "the top of an hill" (2d Sam. 2, 25, &c.) In the dense atmosphere of England, and even in the purer air of the plains of India, it is not easy to imagine how a discourse could have been carried on at so great a distance and from such an eminence; but on the Neelgherries the portions of sacred his-

tory, to which I have referred, receive a striking illustration.—It is worthy of remark also, in proof of the rarity of the atmosphere, that the heavenly bodies appear with much greater brilliancy than when viewed from the plain. This is observed by all strangers; and one correctly remarked, that the planet Venus gave as much light as the moon in her quarters."

SAINT WORSHIP IN RUSSIA.

The last number of the *Missionary Register* contains the following extract from the journal of Mr. Hartley, church missionary in the Greek islands:

"An English gentleman was with me when M. (a Greek gentleman of Therapia, 82 years of age) came in. The conversation soon turned on religion, when my countryman gave him some hints on transubstantiation and the worship of saints, which will, I trust, be useful to M.: it is, however, a mighty effort to renounce the ideas of eighty years. He mentioned an instance of the length to which saint-worship has been carried, which is enough to make one shudder: 'In Russia,' said he, 'some assert, that if God Almighty should die, St. Nicolas would succeed to his place!'"

THE BRUCE MANUSCRIPTS.

The fine collection of Æthiopic, Arabic, and other oriental manuscripts obtained by the celebrated traveller, James Bruce, in Egypt and Abyssinia, were brought to the hammer on the 17th May. They consist of nearly one hundred volumes. Among the biblical manuscripts is an Æthiopic version of the Old Testament, in five volumes, containing the whole of the sacred books except the Psalms, made from manuscripts used by the Greek church at Alexandria, at a remote, but unknown period. This copy is considered unique, each page is divided into three columns, and the MS. has a considerable number of marginal variations. It is written on vellum, in very clear and beautiful characters. It includes the Book of Enoch, which was first brought into Europe by Mr. Bruce. The three copies of it originally belonging to him (one of which is in Paris, and the other at Oxford), are all that are known to exist of it on our continent. There are also in this collection, two copies of the four gospels in Æthiopic; the Epistles and Acts of the Apostles in two volumes on vellum. The Song of Solomon in all the principal languages of the Abyssinian empire, with a vocabulary in each dialect. This MS. is considered a most valuable accession to philological literature. The constitutions of the Apostles, or a collection of the canons made by the first general council (which is the statute-book of the

the church of Abyssinia), in one volume; and the Synaxar, or History of the Saints venerated in Abyssinia, in four large volumes. Among the historical MSS. is the celebrated Chronicle of Axûm, on vellum, in double columns. It professes to have been compiled from materials or records found by Damâtious, Bishop of Rome, in the church of St. Sophia, and read at the first council of Nice to the 318 fathers assembled there. There are also a variety of Arabic MSS., including the Koran, and some works relating to the histories of Syria and Egypt, and of the conquest of Spain by the Saracens; a topographical description of Egypt; the course of the Nile, &c.; several works on medicine and natural history, and an unique Coptic MS. on papyrus, said to have been found in the ruins near Thebes, in the former residence of some Egyptian monks. It contains seventy-six leaves, in small folio, of papyrus, of a dun colour, and exceedingly brittle. The character is neat, of the uncial kind, and consequently all in capitals, without any points or spaces. This MS. is supposed to have been composed in the second or the beginning of the third century. There were several booksellers and literary men present, but no advance was made upon the sum at which the collection was put up on behalf of the proprietor, viz. £5,500.

SUPERSTITION OF THE CHINESE AT JAVA.

Messrs. Tyerman and Bennet mention the following facts, observed in their late visit to Java: "In a Chinese temple, we observed an apartment appropriated to the worship of a long range of Javanese idols of metal and stone, found by the Chinese in various parts of Java. The sculpture of many of these idols was excellent, but they were very ugly. They were placed on an elevated altar, having an immense table placed before them, with many incense-tapers. The Chinese, when questioned as to the reason of their worshipping these idols, said, 'they were some of the gods of the country, and they thought it was well to worship them.' At Buitenzorg we actually found a French engraving of a bust of Buonaparte, in a gilt frame, placed, as an object of worship, over an altar-table in a Chinaman's house, having wax and incense-tapers burning before it! To try what value was put on this picture, we endeavoured to purchase it; but the man said it could not be parted with, because they worshipped it; but he could not, would not, tell us why they worshipped the picture. On returning rather suddenly into the room, we found the old man lifting up his hands in worship to the picture of the late ex-emperor."—[*Miss Chree*.

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BENGAL LITERATURE.

Luckhinarrin Nayalunkar, of the Hon. Company's Sanscrit College, has published the following proposal for publishing a work in the Bengali language, under the title of *Shâstras Sîrcasa*, or "Essence of Literature."

"In the days when India was governed by Hindu princes, the arts and sciences, as well as general literature, shone in a brilliant light, and both masters and disciples were deeply engaged in cultivating the same; but on the fall of their power, from the invasion of Mahomedans, those promoters of the cause of humanity and civilization were gradually buried in darkness; but the dawn of learning has already begun to appear, from the attention of our present rulers having been directed to the re-establishment of Hindu literature; thus, in consequence of the interference of Government in this respect, many of their native subjects have already made considerable progress in learning, and the chief desire of others has been to attain knowledge.

"From the introduction of the art of printing, and its rapid increase among the natives, many works have been printed and obtained general circulation; but those that have already appeared only contain, for the most part, matters from foreign authors, collected for the instruction of young children. In fact, I do not see any printed work of an important nature extant in the native language; the few that have been handled by the natives are an imperfect poetical translation of the *Mahâ Bhâratha*, by Cási Doss, and some others of the same sort, which do not afford any material instruction, or even amusement to the present generation, who (although ignorant of the Sanscrit language, which has now become a dark veil over the face of the ancient Hindu literature) seem to seek amusement in something more solid and instructive than the translations above described; nor can the native newspapers now circulated, and the works of foreign authors containing accounts of foreign countries, fill up their wants.

"The principal books of the Hindu Shâstras are the *Vêdas*, the meaning of which has been given to the world by the celebrated *Vyasa* in the many *Pûranas* composed by him. A work containing such extracts from those *Pûranas* as shall be found amusing, instructive, and productive of information, will, it is hoped, be acceptable to the public, and as such a work must of course be voluminous and expensive, I propose to publish it by numbers.—[*Somachar Chandrika*.

HERMATHRODITE.

At a meeting of the Benares Literary Society,

Society, held at that city, 20th April 1826, a communication of Dr. Watson was read, describing a curious and well-defined case of hermaphroditism. A picture of the object accompanied the communication. It is a female child of seven years old, born about ten miles from Benares, weighing then 3 st. 4½ lb., and being 3 feet 9 inches high. Its voice, muscular appearance, and other peculiarities, are those of an adult male. Dr. Watson proposes to watch the progress of his interesting subject, which only began to evince marks of doubtful gender six months ago.

NORTHERN EXPEDITION.

Letters have been received at the Admiralty from Captain Beechey, of the *Blossom* frigate, which detail the particulars of the voyage of that ship into Behring's Straits. It appears the vessel arrived in the harbour of St. Peter and St. Paul, in Kamtschatka, in June last, and there learnt of the failure of Captain Parry's expedition; and after refitting and taking in such stores as could be procured, sailed to the northward. The *Blossom* entered Kotzebue's Inlet, and then proceeded to Behring's Straits, and reached the latitude of 72° 30', when all further progress was put an end to by an impenetrable barrier of fixed ice, which extended in an entire mass as far as the eye could reach. After several fruitless attempts, and remaining as long as it was prudent, Captain Beechey returned, and again entered Kotzebue's Inlet, the shores of which are represented as having a most inhospitable and dreary appearance. They had several interviews along the coast with the natives, but could not from them or by any other means obtain the least information of Captain Franklin or any of his party, who, it was understood, were to proceed in the course of last summer from the mouth of the Mackenzie river to the westward, in the hope of being able to reach some part of the coast in the neighbourhood of Icy Cape or Kotzebue's Inlet. The officers and men were all well, but the ship had suffered some damage from the pressure of the ice. It is understood the letters are dated in November last, from San Francisco, where the vessel was undergoing some necessary repairs, and refitting for sea.

THE SACRED AND HISTORICAL BOOKS OF CEYLON.

A work is now in preparation for the press which strongly claims the attention and support, not merely of oriental scholars, but of every individual who is interested in tracing the origin, and in learning the tenets of the Buddhist religion, which prevails throughout a large portion of

Asia, and is so closely connected with its history. Mr. Edward Upham, a gentleman who has bestowed much attention upon this subject, has proposed to publish by subscription, translations of three Cingalese manuscripts, which were procured by Sir Alexander Johnston from the priests of Buddha in Ceylon; viz. The *Mahāvāṇī*, or doctrine, race, and lineage of Buddha, written in the Pāli (which is to accompany the translation); the *Rājā-vaṇṇī*, or series of kings, and the *Rājā-ratnā-carī*, or jewel-mine or ocean of kings, both written in the Cingalese language. The two last are of an historical character: all three are, however, explanatory of the origin and doctrines of Buddhism, and of its introduction into Ceylon. The circumstances under which these works came into the hands of Sir Alexander Johnston, afford the strongest evidence possible of their authenticity. When Government determined to adopt the recommendation of Sir Alexander, and give the Cingalese a code of laws adapted to local circumstances, and to the religion, manners and habits of the people, the most celebrated Buddhist priests, as well those educated on the island as in the Burmese empire, who most cordially co-operated in the undertaking, after much consideration amongst themselves, and frequent consultations with their followers, who felt themselves directly interested in authenticating their information, presented to Sir Alexander these works, as containing the most genuine account which is extant of the origin of the Buddha religion and doctrines, together with its moral and political effects upon the native governments, manners, and usages. These documents were then compared with all the best copies of the same works in the different temples in Ceylon, and were carefully revised and corrected by two of the ablest priests of Buddha on that island. An English translation of them was then made by the official translators, under the superintendence of the late native chief of the cinnamon department, who was confessedly the best native Pāli and Cingalese scholar in that country; and that translation is now revising for the present publication, by the Rev. Mr. Fox, who resided in Ceylon for many years as a Wesleyan missionary, and who is the best European Pāli and Cingalese scholar at present in Europe.

The East-India Company, with their usual liberality, have subscribed for forty copies; his Majesty, the Duke of Sussex, the President of the Board of Control, and various noble, learned and official persons have also subscribed. As the publication is, however, an expensive one, and as an individual's private resources ought not to be taxed for an object like this, we hope that a speedy and liberal subscription will

at least secure Mr. Upham from the apprehension of loss, in an undertaking for which oriental scholars ought to feel so much indebted to him.

CHINESE CULTIVATION.

Mr. Timkowski describes the Chinese cultivators as being so industrious, as to be able to convert even summits of barren mountains into arable land. Near Kalgan, north of Peking, within the Chinese wall, a mountainous country, he observed proofs of this perfection of agriculture. "On the sides of the mountains there are villages with temples; some dwellings are hewn in the solid rock, or built against it like birds' nests. We particularly admired the boldness and indefatigable activity of the Chinese cultivators: the summits of the highest mountains were converted into fertile fields. It is scarcely possible to conceive how they could till these naked and almost inaccessible rocks."

ERAS IN HINDOSTAN.

The following account of the eras by which time is reckoned in the provinces subject to the Bengal Government, is from the *Calcutta Gov. Gaz.* of Dec. 28.

"The Hijra year, as is well known, is counted from the flight of Mohammed from Mecca, and is usually considered to begin on Friday the 16th July, A.D. 622. A particular sect, however, in which most of the astronomers are included, calculate it from the preceding day, Thursday the 15th, and this latter reckoning is the more remarkable, as it is confirmed by calculations drawn from the luni-solar year of the Hindus, which make the first day of the lunation conform to the 15th July 622, and which, therefore, probably furnished the Mohammedan astronomers with the elements by which they fixed the commencement of their era. The Arabian year consists of twelve lunar months, but some modification of its duration has taken place, in order to make the first day of a civil month correspond with the least period after conjunction at which the new moon becomes visible; and this is effected by dividing time into cycles of thirty years, of which nineteen common consist of 354 days, and eleven intercalary of 355. The months are also of twenty-nine and thirty days alternately, except in the intercalary years, when the last month has thirty days. The neglect of the intercalary years has led Hutton into error in his formula, for converting Hijra years into those of the Christian era, of multiplying by 354, dividing by 365, and adding 622 years to the result. In this case the intercalary days, about thirty-six days and a half in every century, are to be added to the Christian years.

The most generally current eras of the Hindus are two: the *Saka* and *Sambat*, or dates of Salivahana and Vikramaditya. The former is computed from the supposed birth of Salivahana, King of Pratihthana, in southern India. The event is said to have occurred in the year of the Kali age 3179, which makes it full seventy-eight years after the birth of Christ. It differs in nothing from the common solar year, and the adjustment of it with the dates of the Christian era is, therefore, very easily made: the present year (1826) is Saka 1748.

The Sambat year numbers the luni-solar years in the same manner as the Saka does the solar years. It is computed from the reign of Vikramaditya, King of Uggain, which, according to Colonel Warren, began fifty-seven years before the era of Christianity. In Upper India, however, the computation is usually fifty-six years, although the different commencement of the years occasionally appear to vary the proportion. During part of the current year the Sambat date was 1882, but it is now 1883.

The date of the last or iron age of the world is also not unfrequently cited. This begins 3101 years before the Christian era, and the present year is consequently 4927 of the *Kutec*. We need not be much alarmed at the advanced stage of this, the last age of the world, as it has still 427,079 years to run.

We next come to eras of very uncertain origin and history, but which are constantly referred to in practice, and have some principle in common, although it is not easy to determine what it is, which produces a concurrence of their dates. The *Fusli* era, of which the present is the year 1233, consists of solar years, commencing with the full moon of Asharh (June, July). The name refers it evidently to the period at which it was customary to determine the annual collections, with respect to the crops just approaching to maturity. The *Wibaiti* year is altogether a blank. It is a solar year, and begins on the new moon of Chaitra (March, April). It is supposed to be of Mohammedan introduction. The Bengal year *Sun*, or *Son*, is a solar year, beginning with the sun's entrance into Aries. Its introduction is attributed to Hoesin Shah, King of Bengal, who reigned in 1499. It appears, as well as the two preceding dates, to have owed its origin to some blundering attempt to adjust the Mohammedan to the Hindu year, without providing for the difference between the lunar and solar years. The present Bengal year is, for instance, 1233. The Hijra year is 1242, and the former is therefore short of the latter by nine years. But the Hijra computation, as compared with the solar reckoning, loses about three years in a century, and as

about three centuries have elapsed since the reign of Hosein Shah, the nine deficient years in the Bengal and the concurrent eras are thus accounted for.

To these eras we may add the date used by the Jains, which is reckoned from the disappearance of their last legislator, Verdhhamana Swami, according to some authorities 663, and to others 636 years before the Christian era; and the religious era of the Burmans, which is computed from the 544th year prior to that period. They have however a vulgar era also, which commences A.D. 638.

There are several other eras in use to the eastward as well as in the south of India, of which we are not able at present to offer any satisfactory notice.

SURVEY OF BORNEO.

It appears from a statement made by M. Brice, at the Geographical Society at Paris, on proposing the admission as a member of Baron Van der Capellen, the late Governor-general of Netherlands India, that Mr. Müller, who was employed by his Excellency on a survey of Borneo, and who was murdered by the natives, has left eight charts, containing 1,500 leagues of the coast, besides several places in the interior. He had actually surveyed the whole of the north-west coast of the island, and fixed a great number of geographical points in the interior of the country; but many of his surveys have been unfortunately lost through the lamentable event which has deprived science of this able officer.

DESCRIPTION OF A TEMPLE IN TIBET.

Extract of a Letter, dated September 23, 1826.—"I have received a letter from Mr. —, from the other side of the Himalaya range, in which he has favoured me with much information respecting the Lamas of Tartary, and the moral and religious condition of the people. A description of a temple at Hury-Ho I transcribe for your perusal. 'The temple of Hury-Ho is sixty feet long, forty wide, and about thirty high. The principal object is a demon with a third eye in his forehead, and a mouth like a wild beast; round his head is a tiara of human skulls; a chaplet of men's heads, alternately black and white, reaches from his shoulders to the ground; his waist is encircled by the skin of a tiger, which is fastened about him by yellow and green serpents; a human skull inverted, filled with blood, is in his left hand and in his right a bird, with wings extended, each foot tramples on a human body. The figure is of colossal dimensions, being between eight or

nine feet; he is in an upright position, together with a female demon, who has also three eyes, similar in countenance to the male, and crowned like him with a wreath of human skulls, and bearing in her hands the same blood-filled goblet. From the head of the male grows out a horse's head; from that of the female a boar's with bloody jaws. The paintings on the walls are not less horrible or disgusting; two sides of the walls are filled with quiescent figures in a sitting posture, having each a halo or glory round his head, and the hands joined in the attitude of prayer. On the other two sides are the following designs:

No. 1. A black demon with boar's face, in the right hand a dagger, and in the left a skull; a human body mangled and bleeding lies prostrate under each foot.

2. A yellow figure with three eyes, a dagger in one hand, a club in the other, sitting on a tiger, mangling a human body.

3. A black demon with boar's face, gory mouth, and three eyes; in one hand a mace, in the other a skull, a human body under her foot.

4. A red demon with three eyes, chaplet of skulls, in the right hand a club, in the left a scorpion; under each foot a human body lies bleeding.

5. A human figure, face half concealed by a mask, with a glory round his head; he is in a sitting posture, drinking blood from a skull.

6. Similar to No. 1.

7. Two figures, male and female. A legion of non-descript animals around.

8. A serpent with a face, body full of eyes, coiled over a human body.

9. An equestrian figure with three eyes, heads depend from the saddle bow, it is armed with a bow and arrows, the horse has a dragon's head.

10. A dog with a human face, with a female human being.

11. A black demon; across his lap is a human body, upon whose entrails he is feeding.

12. An equestrian figure with a boar's head, jaws bloody, armed with sword and shield; a dragon is sitting on the shoulders of the figure.

13. An equestrian female figure of a white demon, with three eyes, breasts exposed, sitting upon a horse, with a human skin, the head and hands of which are remaining for a saddle cloth, the reins of the bridle passing through two skulls; in her mouth is an infant. Under the horse a human female is seen with her stomach ripped open.

Eight other figures follow similar to No. 7."

ASIATIC INTELLIGENCE.

Calcutta.

COURT-MARTIAL.

LIEUT. LLOYD, 48TH N.I.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, Dec. 30, 1826.

—At an European General Court-Martial assembled at Nusscerabad on the 13th Nov. 1826, of which Lieut. Col. Comm. Johnston, of the 8th Regt. Light Cavalry, is president, Lieut. A. T. Lloyd, 48th Regt. N.I., was arraigned on the following charges :

Charges.—"Lieut. Lloyd, of the 48th Regt. N.I., ordered into arrest by the Commander-in-chief, on the following charges :—

"1st. With having, some time about Nov. and Dec. 1824, and Jan. 1825, obtained from H. J. Owen, Esq., on false pretences, the sum of 1,500 rupees, on a draft on Messrs. Palmer and Co. of Calcutta, which draft was protested, Lieut. Lloyd having no authority to draw the money, and the whole transaction being an act of gross fraud and swindling.

"2dly. With having, some time about February following, declared in a letter to the said Mr. Owen, that an accident from a fall of his horse breaking his arm, had prevented him writing to Mr. Owen on the subject of the above draft, or words to that effect, such assertion being a deliberate falsehood, no such accident or implied incapacity having occurred.

"3dly. With having ascribed the refusal of Messrs. Palmer and Co. to honour the draft to the absence of advice, and assured Mr. Owen that if again presented it would meet with due honour, thereby inducing Mr. Owen again to transmit it to the house of Messrs. Palmer and Co., Lieut. Lloyd at the time having no authority to draw the money from Messrs. Palmer and Co., by whom the draft was again refused, with the communication that they knew nothing of Lieut. Lloyd.

"4thly. With having, after Mr. Owen had consented to receive payment by instalments of the sum thus fraudulently obtained from him, given in payment to an officer of his corps, for Mr. Owen, a draft on Messrs. Palmer and Co., dated 25th April 1826, which was protested ; and when again, on the application and request of Lieut. Lloyd, forwarded to Messrs. Palmer and Co., again refused.

"5thly. With having not at this date paid the sum of 595 rupees still remaining due to Mr. Owen from the above fraudulent and swindling transaction.

"The whole or any part of such con-

duct being scandalous and infamous, disgraceful to the character of an officer and a gentleman.

(Signed) "H. M. WHEELER,
Com. 48th N.I."

"Neemuch, 16th Oct. 1826."

Additional Charges.—"Lieut. A. Lloyd, 48th Regt. N.I., placed under arrest by me this 4th day of Aug. 1826, on the following charges :

"1st. For conduct unbecoming the character of an officer, and totally subversive of all subordination, in rendering a public letter, dated the 3d of Aug. 1826, addressed to Lieut. Brace, acting adjutant of the regiment, the vehicle of the following insult to me, his commanding officer : 'there exists no man on the face of God's earth, I despise so much as him.'

"2dly. For disrespect and contempt of authority in using in the aforesaid letter the following words, the same being applied to me as his commanding officer : 'Ask him if he knows Captain Hicks, who declared at Bhopalpoore, that he, Captain Wheeler, would cheat his own father if he could.'

"3dly. For disobedience of orders and gross contempt of authority, in refusing to perform any duty whatever, in a letter dated the 3d of Aug. 1826, to Lieut. Brace, acting adjutant of the 48th Regt. N.I., and in absenting himself from regimental exercise on the morning of the 4th of August, when the regiment was out at exercise.

(Signed) "H. M. WHEELER,
Captain, com. 48th N.I."

Second Additional Charges.—"1st. For breach of arrest, in quitting his quarters between the hours of five and seven, on the evening of the 7th of August 1826.

"2dly. For breach of arrest, in quitting his quarters between the hours of five and seven, on the evening of the 10th of August 1826, though warned of the consequences of doing so.

"3dly. For breach of arrest, in quitting his quarters between the hours of nine and eleven, on the night of the 14th of August 1826, and conduct disgraceful to the character of a European officer, in going about in the disguise of a native.

(Signed) "H. M. WHEELER,
Com. 48th Regt. N.I."

"Neemuch, October 16, 1826."

Finding.—"The court having deliberated on the evidence for the prosecution, with what the prisoner has urged in his defence—do find him

Guilty on the 1st count of the 1st charge.

Guilty on the 2d count.

Guilty

Guilty on the 3d count.

Guilty on the 4th count.

On the 5th count, the court find the prisoner guilty of not having paid 595 rupees, but it does not appear due.

Guilty of the whole of the additional charges.

Guilty of the whole of the second additional charge.

Sentence.—To be cashiered.

Approved and confirmed,

(Signed) COMBERMERE, General,
Commander-in-chief.

Remarks by the Right Hon. the Commander-in-chief.

The Commander-in-chief perused with surprise the recommendation of the court in favour of Mr. Lloyd. The honour of the army being entrusted to his Lordship, he will not compromise it by sanctioning the name of a person being continued on its rolls who has been found guilty of a gross fraud, swindling, and of uttering a deliberate falsehood, without any circumstance, on evidence, which could palliate such conduct.

The closeness of the confinement imposed on the prisoner, at the early part of his arrest, alluded to in the recommendation of the court, would, as appears on the face of the proceedings, have been relaxed had a proper application been made to the officer commanding the corps.

The prisoner was entitled to a full acquittal on the 5th charge; by finding that the money was not due, the fact was divested of criminality.

Mr. Lloyd is to be struck off the strength of the army from the date on which this order may be published at Nusseerabad, and will proceed without delay to Fort William. On his arrival there the Town and Fort Major will be pleased to take the necessary steps for providing Mr. Lloyd with a passage to Europe.

By order of his Excellency the Commander-in-chief,

W. L. WATSON,
Adj. Gen. of the Army.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Judicial Department.

Nov. 23. Mr. H. S. Oldfield, magistrate of Ghazepore.

Mr. A. Reid, register of Zillah Court of Chittagong.

Dec. 14. Mr. E. J. Smith, judge and magistrate of Moradabad.

Mr. J. F. Cathcart, register of Zillah Court of Nuddea.

Mr. R. Williams, joint magistrate at Pillibheet.

Jan. 4. Mr. F. Law, senior judge of Provincial Courts of Appeal and Circuit for Division of Benares.

Mr. R. Mitford, second ditto of ditto.

Mr. C. Dawes, third ditto of ditto.

Mr. W. Gorton, second ditto of Provincial Courts of Appeal and Circuit for Division of Benares.

Mr. W. Cracroft, third judge of Provincial Courts of Appeal and Circuit for division of Benares.

Mr. W. Lowther, fourth ditto of ditto.

Mr. H. Walters, judge and magistrate of city of Dacca.

Mr. W. J. Turquand, ditto ditto of Dacca Jalahpore.

Mr. T. A. Shaw, judge of zillah of Chittagong.

Mr. T. G. Vibart, judge and magistrate of Juanpore.

Mr. A. C. Floyer, ditto ditto of Beerbhoom.

Mr. R. Barlow, magistrate and collector of Jungle Mehals.

Mr. J. A. M. Mills, assistant to magistrate and to collector of Tipperah.

11. Mr. D. Pringle, assistant to magistrate and to collector of Bhaugulpore.

Territorial Department.

Nov. 23. Mr. G. R. Campbell, principal assistant in Rohtuck division of Dehlee territory.

30. Mr. W. J. Conolly, sub-secretary to Board of Revenue in Central Provinces.

M. J. Delancy, assistant to secretary to Board of Revenue in Central Provinces.

Dec. 7. Mr. R. Williams, sub-collector of Pillibheet.

14. Mr. A. Grote, collector and joint magistrate of northern division of Moradabad.

Mr. A. Cumming, deputy collector of Azimgurh.

Mr. M. J. Tierney, deputy collector of government customs and town duties at Benares.

21. Mr. J. P. Gubbins, assistant to commissioner of Dehlee.

20. Mr. W. Dundas, principal assistant in western division of Dehlee territory.

Mr. E. C. Trevelyan, assistant to secretary to Board of Revenue in western provinces.

Mr. C. G. Mansell, ditto central ditto.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Jan. 11. Rev. J. R. Henderson, junior Presidency chaplain.

Rev. T. N. Stevens, district chaplain at Kur-naul.

Rev. J. J. Tucker, ditto at Dinapore.

Rev. W. Burkill, ditto at Nectmuel.

Rev. R. Ewing, ditto at Ghazepore.

Rev. A. Macpherson, ditto at Dum Dum.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort William, Nov. 20, 1826.—Surg. R. Tytler, M.D., to be naturalist, mineralogist, and surgeon to expedition about to proceed on a voyage of discovery.

Nov. 24.—43d N.I. Brev. Capt. and Lieut. S. Hart to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. H. W. Matthews to be lieut., from 9th Nov., in suc. to Cow-slade dec.

Assist. surg. J. M. Brander to be an additional medical officer for duties of civil station of Cuttack.

Mr. W. C. Laing admitted an assist. surgeon.

Maj. T. G. Alder, of invalid estab., permitted, at his own request, to resign service of Hon. Company.

Assist. surgs. appointed. H. Roe to civil station of Tipperah, v. Brander rem. to Cuttack; J. Goss to civil station of Bheerthoom, v. Downes rem. to Nuddea.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 15, 1826.—Surg. Urquhart removed from 16th to 14th Nil.

Assist. surg. Stevenson posted to 14th N.I.

Nov. 17.—Capt. Fernie, late dep. assist. adj. gen. to south-eastern div., to be brigade maj. to troops in Arracan.

Nov. 18.—Lieut. R. Jackson, of artil., and Lieut. F. Gresley, 14th N.I., attached to service of his Highness the Nizam, and directed to proceed to Hyderabad.

Lieut. Wm. Martindell, 2d in command of 8th local horse, to be 2d in command of 1st local horse, v. Grueber dec.

Nov. 21.—Lieut. Col. Bowen removed from 14th to 3d N.I., and Lieut. Col. Poole from 3d to 14th ditto.

Fort William, Dec. 1, 1826.—30th N.I. Ens. M. E. Loflie to be lieut., from 23d Nov., v. Eyre dec.

44th N.I. Ens. J. Wemyss to be lieut., from 3d May, v. Balderston dec.

68th N.I. Lieut. C. Marshall to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. W. James to be lieut., from 7th April, in suc. to Wilson dec.

Capt. J. Steel, 41st N.I., to be a dep. judge adv. gen. on estab., v. Capt. Hamilton nominated an assist. adj. gen. of army.

Surg. P. Mathew to have charge of Medical Depot at Cawnpore, v. Taylor dec.

Cadet Win. Shaw admitted to infantry, and prom. to ensign.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 25.—Ens. the Hon. J. O. Murray, 44th, and Ens. G. Holloway, 69th N.I., permitted to exch. corps.

10th L.C. Lieut. W. Wingfield to be adj., v. Douglas app. aide-de-camp to Right Hon. the Vice-president.

19th N.I. Lieut. J. Stephen to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Ingram prom.

26th N.I. Lieut. H. Johnson to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Grant rem. to 27th regt.

Oriental Prom. Bat. Lieut. C. Commeline, 13th N.I., to be adj., v. Fleming dec.

Nov. 28.—Ens. Blackwood to do duty with 69th N.I. at Barrackpore.

Dec. 1.—Lieut. J. Ewart, 55th N.I., to be aide-de-camp to Maj. Gen. Dick, v. Hepworth app. brig. maj. to troops in Assam.

Brev. Capt. Aldous relieved from acting adjcy. of Burdwan prov. bat.

Fort William, Dec. 8.—Engineers. Lieut. Col. T. Robertson to be lieut. col. com.; Brev. Lieut. Col. and Maj. T. Anbury to be lieut. col.; and Capt. D. McLeod to be major, from 1st Dec., in suc. to Parby dec.—Supernum. Capt. J. F. Paton brought on effective strength of corps.

6th N.I. Lieut. G. Cracklow to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. W. Frusterick to be lieut., from 21st Nov., in suc. to Decluzau dec.

Cadets admitted. Mr. Jas. D. Baring to cavalry, and prom. to cornet.—Messrs. C. Ralfe and R. N. MacLenn to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. Jos. Burgoyne as an assist. surg.

Lieut. G. F. Tytler, 16th N.I., permitted, at his own request, to resign service of Hon. Company.

Officiat. Assist. surg. W. Stewart, permitted, at his own request, to resign his temporary situation in H.C.'s service.

Dec. 1.—Infantry. Maj. H. T. Tapp to be lieut. col., v. Fraser ret. with rank from 21st June 1826, in suc. to Maj. Gen. Haldane dec.; Maj. W. Swinton to be lieut. col., v. Ryan ret. with rank from 23d Aug., in suc. to Lieut. Col. Short, dec.; Maj. J. Auriol to be lieut. col., v. Moxon ret. with rank from 24th Sept., in suc. to Lieut. Col. Conn. Lamb dec.

2d Europ. Regt. Capt. T. C. Watson to be major; Lieut. J. A. Thompson to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. J. Grissell to be lieut., from 24th Sept., in suc. to Auriol prom.

4th N.I. Capt. C. Taylor to be maj., Brev. Capt. and Lieut. J. Nicolson to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. J. Wilcox to be lieut., from 21st June, in suc. to Tapp prom.

42d N.I. Capt. T. Fiddes to be maj.; Lieut. J. B. Neufville to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. J. H. Phillips to be lieut., from 23d Aug., in suc. to Swinton prom.

6th N.I. Capt. G. Moore to be maj., Lieut. J. W. H. Turner to be capt. of a comp., and Ens.

T. S. Fast to be lieut., from 10th June, v. Fitzgerald dec.

Dec. 8.—To be Capt. by Brevet. Lieut. H. Lawrence, 67th N.I.; Lieut. W. Barnett, 56d do.; 1st Lieut. R. S. B. Morland, artil.; 1st Lieut. W. Geddes, do.

Head-Quarters, Dec. 5.—Surg. F. Corbyn appointed to 68th N.I., at Arracan.

Dec. 7.—Lieut. Col. Com. S. Nation (new prom.) posted to 9th N.I., and Lieut. Col. Com. Jas. Nicolson removed from 9th to 29th N.I., v. Maj. Gen. Haldane dec.

Removals and postings of Lieut. Colonels. A. Galloway (new prom.) to 2d N.I., v. Richards prom. J. Ward (new prom.) to 21st do. W. Brookes from 21st to 31st do., v. Fraser ret. E. Wyatt (new prom.) to 52d do., v. Moxon ret. H. T. Tapp (new prom.) to 1st do. H. Hodgson from 1st to 12th do., v. J. C. Grant, dec. W. Swinton (new prom.) to 67th do. J. L. Stuart from 67th to 27th do. W. R. Gilbert from 27th to 15th do., v. Ryan ret. J. Auriol (new prom.) to 2d Europ. regt. T. Murray from 2d Europ. regt. to 9th N.I., v. Nation prom.

Fort William, Dec. 15.—Infantry. Lieut. Col. H. Bowen to be lieut. col. com., v. W. Thomas dec., and Maj. W. H. Kennon to be lieut. col., v. Bowen prom.

16th N.I. Ens. D. F. Evans to be lieut., from 8th Dec., v. Tytler resigned.

50th N.I. Capt. J. Drysdale to be maj., Brev. Capt. and Lieut. W. W. Rees to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. C. Hunter to be lieut., from 26th Nov. in suc. to Kennon prom.

Medical Department. Assist. surg. J. A. D. Watson to be surg., v. Macwhirter ret. Assist. surg. C. E. Everest to be surg., v. W. Ogilvy dec.

Cadet W. B. Thomson admitted to infantry, and prom. to ensign.

Capt. Baker, of artil., to be agent for preparation of iron suspension bridges, with a salary of 1,000 rs. per mensem.

Capt. J. Bedford, 48th N.I., and Lieut. B. Browne, regt. of artil., re-transferred to Revenue Survey Department.

Dec. 21.—56th N.I. Lieut. G. B. B. Hetzler to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. J. R. Younger to be lieut., from 2d Nov., in suc. to Garstin dec.

Capt. H. L. White, 36th N.I., to be a major of brigade on estab., v. Currie resigned.

Cadets admitted. Messrs. J. G. Gerrard and C. H. Burt to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Messrs. H. Babington and B. D. Small as assist. surgs.

Head-Quarters, Dec. 14.—Ens. J. H. Lefevre removed from 10th and posted to 26th N.I.

Dec. 19.—Assist. surg. Burgoyne posted to 68th N.I. at Arracan.

Dec. 20.—Lieut. W. Parker, 10th L.C., to be aide-de-camp to Maj. Gen. Pline.

Cornet W. H. Tweedale removed from 6th to 8th L.C.

Ens. P. Gordon removed from 52d, and posted to 11th N.I.

Dec. 21.—Surg. W. Jackson appointed to 19th N.I., and Surg. T. Crichton to 20th do.

Dec. 22.—Capt. and Brig. Maj. White appointed to Barrackpore.

Ensigns appointed to do duty. J. G. Gerrard with 6th N.I. at Mullye, and C. H. Burt with 50th do. at Allahabad.

Appointments and Removals. Lieut. Col. Com. H. Brown (new prom.) to 3d N.I.; Lieut. Col. Com. Croxton from 3d to 10th do.; Lieut. Col. Kennon (new prom.) to 50th do.; Lieut. Col. J. Delamain from 50th to 3d do.; Lieut. Col. George from 37th to 60th do.; Lieut. Col. Heathcote from 60th to 53d do.; Lieut. Col. P. T. Comyn from 53d to 37th do.

Assist. surgs. appointed to do duty. H. P. Bell with 66th N.I., at Barrackpore; Llewellyn with 28th do. at Barrackpore; Babington and Small at General Hospital.

Assist. surg. J. V. Leese appointed to 10th L.C. at Meerut.

Dec. 23.—Artillery. Maj. W. S. Whish to command Kurnaul and Sirhind division of artillery; and Lieut. E. Blake to be adj. to ditto.

Fort William, Dec. 29.—Infantry. Maj. C. H. Baines to be lieut. col. from 14th Dec., v. Leys dec.

15th N.I. Capt. R. L. Dickson to be maj., Lieut. W. A. Troup to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. D. Ogilvy to be lieut., from 20th Dec. in suc. to Nicholson dec.

10th N.I. Ens. W. Platt to be lieut., v. Donnelly dec.

27th N.I. Capt. R. Axford to be major, Lieut. P. B. Pitton to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. T. Plumbe to be lieut., from 14th Dec., in suc. to Baines prom.

Lieuts. G. C. Holroyd, 57th N.I., and F. Jenkins, 68th do., to be capt. by brevet from 2d Dec. 1826.

Mr. H. J. Blunt admitted to inf., and prom. to ensign.

Messrs. J. Ransford and W. H. Rogers admitted as assist. surgs.

Assist. surg. Jas. Innes to be surgeon to residency at Caturandhoon.

Lieut. B. Pead, 4th L.C., permitted, at his own request, to resign service of Hon. Compt.

Dec. 30.—*Army Commissariat.* Capt. J. Satchwell prom. from 2d to 1st class of dep. assist. coms. gen.; Capt. W. J. Thompson, sub-assist., to be a dep. assist. com. gen. of 2d class; Lieut. H. Clayton, supernumerary, to be a sub-assist. com. gen.; Lieut. H. Doveton, 4th N.I., to be a supernum. sub-assist. com. gen.; all in suc. to Capt. Humphreys proceeding to Europe.

Lieut. T. H. Pearson, H.M.'s 11th Dr., to be an aide-de-camp on personal staff of Governor-general.

Ens. R. Crawford, 27th N.I., permitted, at his own request, to resign service of Hon. Compt.

Capt. R. Colebrooke, 26th N.I., transf. to invalid estab.

Jan. 5.—4th L.C. Cornet G. F. McClintock to be lieut. from 29th Dec., v. Pead resigned.

Assist. surg. D. Woodburn to be surg., v. J. Williamson ret., in suc. to W. Ogilvy dec.

Assist. surg. H. Cavell to be surg. to Governor-general, v. Abel dec.

Capt. J. Taylor, of engineers, to be assist. superintend. engineer of public works in Lower Provinces, v. Garstin.

Lieut. J. Thompson, of engineers, to be executive engineer of 3d or Dinapore div. of department of public Works, v. Taylor.

Capt. W. Bell, of artill., to officiate as executive officer of 17th or Burdwan div. of department of public works, v. Peckett resigned.

Assist. surg. W. W. Hewett, to perform medical duties of Sunderbund commission, v. Cavell.

Assist. surg. H. Beadon to be 1st-assist., and Assist. surg. T. Spens to be 2d assist. gar. surg. in Fort William, in suc. to Doctor Hewett.

Head-Quarters, Dec. 29.—39th N.I. Brev. Capt. W. Aldons to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Craigie app. to general staff.

43d N.I. Lieut. R. Campbell to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Hart prom.

68th N.I. Lieut. C. S. Melling to be adj., v. Marshall prom.; Lieut. S. J. Grove to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Vansandau app. 2d in command of Rungpore local inf.

4th Extra N.I. Lieut. C. H. Boisragon to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Stewart prom.

1st Nussere—Det. Lieut. J. K. McCausland, 2d Extra N.I., to be adj., v. Nicolson prom.

Medical Department. Surg. Gerard re-appointed to 1st Nussere Bat.; Assist. surg. M^oQ. Gray appointed to 5th N.I.; Surg. Stoddart appointed to 3d do.

Removals of Lieut. Cols. Commandant. C. Fagan from 41st to 56th N.I. Waguellin from 56th to 41st do. E. P. Wilson from 15th to 17th do. E. Cartwright from 1st Europ. Regt. to 15th N.I. D. MacLeod, from 17th N.I. to 1st Europ. Regt.

Removals and postings of Lieut. Cols. Baines (new prom.) to 60th N.I. George from 60th to 29th do. Pester from 1st to 2d Europ. Regt. Auriol from 2d to 1st do. Fast from 59th to 24th N.I. Cunliffe from 24th to 4th Extra N.I. Waters from 4th Extra to 59th do.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 28, 1826.—Lieut. T. Knox, Queen's Royals, to be an extra aide-de-camp on staff of his exc. Lieut. Gen. Sir T. Bradford, com-in-chief at Bombay.

Dec. 6.—Lieut. N. Campbell, 13th L. Inf., to be capt. by brevet in East-Indies only, from 29th June 1824.

Dec. 23.—Lieut. T. P. Williamson, 48th F., to be capt. by ditto, from 5th Dec. 1826.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Nov. 24. Maj. J. Elliott, 26th N.I., for health.—Assist. Surg. A. Stenhouse, for health.—Surg. T. Tweedie, on private affairs.—29. Lieut. Col. Com. W. Innes, 30th N.I., ditto.—Lieut. Col. James Durant, 10th N.I., for health.—Maj. N. S. Webb, of artill., for health.—Capt. J. Jervis, 5th N.I., for health.—Capt. S. P. C. Humphreys, 36th N.I., for health.—Lieut. H. Drummond, 3d L.C., for health.—Lieut. R. MacMurdo, 13th N.I., for health.—Dec. 1. Maj. Edm. B. Craigie, 68th N.I., on private affairs.—Lieut. R. C. Johnson, 50th N.I., for health.—Lieut. Col. G. Pollock, of artill., for health.—Capt. R. Fernie, 27th N.I., for health.—Brev. Capt. A. Grant, 52d N.I., for health.—Lieut. Col. G. Sargent, 13th N.I., on private affairs.—Surg. Jos. Adams, ditto.—Lieut. H. B. Harrington, 37th N.I., ditto.—Lieut. Col. J. W. Blackney, 5th N.I., ditto.—Capt. Jas. Carter, 5th N.I., ditto.—Maj. J. Rodher, of artill., for health.—Capt. G. Barker, 33d N.I., for health.—Lieut. T. Gear, 30th N.I., for health.—21. Capt. A. Horsburgh, 46th N.I., on private affairs.—Lieut. Col. Com. Wm. Gwynn, 24th N.I., ditto.—Surg. Wm. Jackson, ditto.—Capt. J. W. Roberdeau, 4th L.C., for health.—2d Lieut. G. G. Scott, of artill., for health.—23. Lieut. Gen. Sir T. Brown, col. of 1st L.C., on private affairs.—Lieut. Col. Com. T. Whitehead, 68th N.I., ditto.—Surg. G. Playfair, ditto.—Jan. 5. Maj. F. H. Broughton, 21st N.I., on private affairs.—Lieut. E. J. Betts, 2d Extra N.I., for health.—Ens. W. H. Balders, 16th N.I., for health.—Lieut. P. Schachal, 2d L.C.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Dec. 1. Lieut. Col. R. C. Garnham, 36th N.I., for health.—30. Lieut. Col. H. Griffiths, inv. estab., for twelve months, for health.

To Singapore.—Dec. 29. Capt. Sir R. Colquhoun, 44th N.I., for ten months, for health.

To St. Helena.—Dec. 21. Maj. C. H. Baines, 27th N.I., for health (eventually to Europe).

To New South Wales.—Jan. 5. Capt. S. Speck, 4th N.I., for twelve months, for health.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

To Europe.—Nov. 16. Maj. Jackson, 20th F., on private affairs.—26. Maj. Glover, Royal Regt., for one year, on ditto.—Dec. 6. Lieut. Neale, 16th L. Dr., for health.—8. Lieut. Crisp, Royal Regt., for health.—12. Cornet Gumbleton, 4th L. Dr., for health.—18. Capt. Tomlinson, 11th L. Dr., on private affairs.—Lieut. the Hon. F. G. Howard, 13th F., for health.—Capt. Walawright, 47th F., for one year, on private affairs.—23. Capt. Napier, 4th L. Dr., for health.—Lieut. Hamshotom, 4th do., for health.—25. Lieut. O'Brien, 30th F., for health.—Jan. 3. Lieut. Ormsby, 14th F., for health.—Lieut. Daly, 14th do., for health.

To Ceylon.—Dec. 23. Brev. Capt. Funicane, 14th F., for eight months, on private affairs.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, Nov. 28.

In consequence of an application which had been made to the Supreme Court to admit two more attorneys, the Chief Justice, on taking his seat this morning, took occasion to remark, that the Court had already considered that body very extensive, and that it had it in contemplation to lessen the number gradually, by admitting one individual for every four vacancies. His Lordship

Lordship likewise observed, that some whose leave of absence had expired, and others who were unable to discharge their duty from other circumstances, should be struck off the roll. Among the former he named Messrs. Brewer, Loch, and Stone; and among the latter, Mr. Peard, who should be re-instated when he was liberated from gaol.

December 29.

Sir A. Buller sat (with the other judges) for the last time this day, previous to his return to England.

The rules and regulations made by the Court for carrying into effect the new Jury Act were read: an abstract is given below.

Jebb, v. Lefevre.—This was a case of great importance to persons possessing real property. The question was, whether lands were assets in the hands of administrators for payment of debts.

The Chief Justice (Sir C. Grey) was of opinion that executors and administrators had no power to sell land for payment of debts; that it went to the heir at law, not to the executors or administrators. *Obiter dictum*: in his opinion, if lands were sold for debts in the life-time of the debtor, dower would attach; *i. e.* two-thirds only could be legally sold.

The other judges, Sir A. Buller and Sir J. Franks, dissented from the opinion of the Chief Justice, deeming landed property to be at the disposal of the administrator. The latter was inclined to agree in what fell from Sir C. Grey on the subject of dower.

The opinion of the majority being for the plaintiff, judgment was given accordingly.

Sir C. Grey said: "I wish it to be understood that, should this question arise hereafter, I do not consider myself bound by this decision."

Doe, on dem. of Claude Joseph Pouchelet, v. John Adolphus Stansbury.—The question in this case was, whether an alien could inherit or hold land in Calcutta.

The court were unanimously of opinion that an alien could not acquire real property in Calcutta, and gave judgment for the defendant.

Sir A. Buller added: "This decision does not apply to lands in the Mofussil."

The following is an abstract of the rules and regulations established by the Supreme Court in pursuance of the Juries in India Act:

1. All men (except as hereafter excepted); are qualified to serve on juries, who have heretofore served, and all who are resident housekeepers, and occupy a tenement of the monthly value of 50 rupees,

or the annual value of 500 rupees; or who are worth 5,000 rupees.

2. Except such as hold any office under the Supreme Court or in the police of Calcutta; or are the subjects of any foreign state; or are 21 years of age; or who have been convicted of treason, felony, fraudulent, or infamous offences; or who are outlaws, lunatics, or idiots; or who are unable to read, write, and understand the English language. The sheriffs and clerks of the Crown are forbidden to insert in their lists, the names of any natives of whose competency to understand the English language they have not experience or sure knowledge.

3. No person who does not profess the Christian religion is qualified to serve on any grand jury, or on any jury for the trial of a person who does profess that religion.

4. Contains exemptions of certain high officers and others from being required to serve on juries.

5. Contains the exemptions from being required to serve on other than special or grand juries; which include natives possessing the title of raja, or insignia of equivalent rank; or whose rank or superiority of caste prevents them, according to the usage of their tribe or religion, from sitting on common juries; or who are worth 200,000 rupees.

6, 7, 8, and 9. Direct the mode in which the sheriff and clerk of the Crown shall prepare the lists.

10. The sheriff shall summon for each sessions thirty-six of those who are qualified and liable to serve on grand juries, and sixty of those who are qualified and liable to serve on petit juries, and every summons shall be served one week at least before the first day of the sessions at which the party summoned is to attend; and of each of the panels returned by the sheriff, one-half at least must be of that class of persons who have hitherto been designated in the Statutes relating to India by the term "British subjects;" and in like manner one-half of the jury shall in every case consist of such British subjects.

11. Directs the manner in which special juries shall be struck, *viz.* from the list arranged in alphabetical and numerical order, in a similar manner as in England.

12, 13, 14, and 15 relate to similar points, wherein the directions correspond with the practice in England.

16. No juror who has served shall be summoned again within twelve months, unless for want of other jurors.

17. Jurors wilfully neglecting to attend liable to punishment for a contempt.

18. The sheriff and clerk of the Crown to be similarly punished in case of wilful omission, false insertion, or vexatious summoning.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

The Governor-general marched from Cawnpore, on the 24th November, and encamped near Lucknow, on the 28th November. The following morning having been fixed for his Lordship's entry into the capital of Oude, a deputation arrived from the King at an early hour to conduct his Lordship from his tents, and was received with suitable attentions. The Governor-general marched from the camp, in full state, and was met at the suburbs by the King of Oude, with the principal officers of his court and an immense retinue of elephants, &c. As the elephants approached each other his Majesty and the Governor-general exchanged the usual salutations, and his Lordship stepping into the King's howdah, the procession moved forward through the city, in the following order, *viz.* the elephants carrying the royal standard and insignia, called the *Mahee Murathi*; the King's kettle drums, and several led horses, a troop of Shooter Seewars, the state palankeens of the King and the Governor-general, his Lordship's body-guard, and the King's corps, dressed in imitation of the British Lancers; the Sowaree elephant, a corps of his Majesty's horse, the Dromedary corps, and several elephants with kettle-drums, and other appendages of state. Every terrace, every balcony, every housetop was crowded with human beings. From every window and chink black faces and admiring eyes appeared peering out at the passing pageant. Now and then the curtains of a window would be slightly opened or raised in different places, and bright sparkling eyes, like stars, shining through the interstices of a cloud, darted their beams on the passing cavalcade. The roofs and balconies of the houses were, in many parts, hung with tapestries of *kinkhab*, *tas*, and other rich stuffs; the shopkeepers displayed their choicest wares, and every building was crowded with spectators, interspersed with numerous bands of singers and musicians. After passing the *Muhul of Aseef-ood Dowleh*, where the guard in attendance on his Majesty's eldest sister saluted the Governor-general, the *Suwarree* passed along the sands of the *Goomtee*, between two lines of troops and amidst continued discharges of cannon, to the palace of *Furrid Bukhsh*, where breakfast was prepared in the verandah of the banquetting-rooms, called the *Bareh Durree*. The King conducted the Governor-general to an extensive saloon, which was destined as the place of assembly. After the usual ceremonies his Majesty, walking arm in arm with Lord Amherst, led the way to the breakfast-table, which was laid out in the verandah, looking upon

the *Paeen Bagh*. On rising from the breakfast-table, the party returned to the first saloon, where the trays of presents had been arranged during the interval. The King then proceeded to fasten round the neck of Lord Amherst, a miniature of himself, set in diamonds, and suspended by two strings of fine pearls. His Majesty also presented a bed of curious workmanship to Lady Amherst. Garlands, with utter and paun, were then distributed, and the Governor-general then left, and proceeded to the residency.

His Majesty returned the Governor-general's visit, and breakfasted with his Lordship at the residency, on the following morning; the usual ceremonies were observed and presents offered on the occasion.

The Governor-general, Lady Amherst, and suite, partook of a dinner and entertainment at the palace of *Furrid Bukhsh*, on the evening of the 1st Dec., when the inner courts of that vast edifice, as well as the street parting the *Bareh Durree*, and the *Paeen Bagh*, were beautifully illuminated with variegated lamps, and a splendid exhibition of *fire-works* took place. The King and all his brothers, ministers, and courtiers, were dressed in the most costly and magnificent robes. His Majesty wore a different dress and different turban, and rode in a different howdah, upon every separate occasion; but he seemed to have reserved his most costly vestments and most brilliant jewels for the present evening, that he might appear with a magnificence worthy of the royal host of the Governor-general of British India.

His Majesty, the heir apparent of Oude, the minister, and several of the principal courtiers dined with the Governor-general, at the residency, on the evening of the 2d.

Next day the Governor-general held a *Durbar* at the residency, when about eighty natives of rank and respectability were introduced, and *khelats* were conferred on most of the number. *Bhugwant Sing*, the *soobadar* of the 6th Regiment Cavalry, who distinguished himself so highly in the celebrated charge made by Capt. Fitzgerald's troops, at the battle of *Seetabuldee*, being a resident in this part of the country, was presented to his Lordship on the above occasion and received an honorary dress and sword.

On the 4th the Governor-general proceeded to breakfast with his Majesty, by invitation, at the Palace of Pearls (*Motee Muhul*) accompanied by all his suite in full uniform, and escorted by the body guard. The King came out to meet the Governor-general about 100 yards from the palace. His Majesty's elephant-carriages were drawn up before the gates of the *Motee Muhul* to add to the show; they were three in number, the largest was

was a very handsome four-wheeled carriage, about twelve or thirteen feet long, with a sort of wooden canopy supported by light pillars and drawn by four young elephants handsomely caparisoned and having their heads and trunks painted with curious figures and quaint devices. Passing through the arch of the handsome gateway of the Motee Muhul, the procession entered an extensive square, in which was erected a circular enclosure, constructed of interwoven bamboos, about thirty feet in height, prepared for a fight between tigers and buffaloes.

The enclosure was quickly surrounded by the elephants of the spectators and by crowds of natives; the uproar waxed exceeding great, and the frightened buffaloes charged the bamboos with alarming fury; but fortunately they were proof against their formidable horns. Expectation was raised to the highest pitch, when two tigers were let in upon the raging buffaloes; but in this, as on most occasions, reality was fully disappointed by anticipation! The tigers crept trembling along the sides of the enclosure, and made no attempt to defend themselves or to avoid the blow, when the buffaloes, carrying their heads close to the ground, charged down upon them, and pinned them to the bamboos. A pugnacious bear was then let in as the champion of the fallen tigers, and expanded his ample arms to embrace his noble foe; but Bruin's self-complacency was considerably disturbed by suddenly finding himself elevated six feet above his ordinary level, with a small rent or two in his comfortable fur jacket. Bruin, deeming discretion to be the better part of valour, turned his back on the buffaloes, and proceeded quietly to climb up the bamboos, till arriving at the top his career was arrested by a net in which he became presently so entangled, that he was unable to move backwards or forwards, and therefore remained quietly where he was, basking in the sun, and looking down upon the field of battle and the enemy with much apparent self-satisfaction at the ingenuity of his escape.

The party then proceeded to a part of the palace called the Moobaruk Munzil, where breakfast had been prepared. After breakfast the party adjourned to the veranda which overlooked the Goomtee, for the purpose of witnessing combats between elephants and rhinoceroses, and other amusements prepared for the occasion, but which were broken off by the indisposition of the king.

On the morning of 5th December, the Governor-general left Lucknow.

The party arrived at Shahjehanpore on the 14th, and reached Bareilly on the morning of the 18th, being met on the road by the Nawab of Rampore accompanied by Mr. Hawkins, to whose house

they proceeded. Next day his Lordship held a levee, and gave dinners on the same and succeeding days.

On the 21st the Governor-general received the visit of the Raja of Rampore, in one of the state tents; and afterwards held a durbar, when several of the principal members of the Rahilla and Patan families of Bareilly and Shahjehanpore, and other natives of consideration were introduced; some of whom received khelats. Amongst others were Nawabs Mohammed Khan and Gholam Hossein Khan, the lineal descendants and representatives of Nawab Behadoor Khan, who founded the town of Shahjehanpore, in the time of the Emperor Shah Jehan, and Hafiz Gholam Ahmed, Kazi of the city of Bareilly. His Lordship quitted Bareilly on the 23d, and reached Aoula on the 27th. This place is famous as the birth-place of Ali Mohammed, the founder of the Rohilla dynasty, and he is buried there under a handsome mausoleum. The present Rais of Rampore is his great grandson, in the male line. The chief inhabitants are Patans and Rajputs, the latter of the Kutheria tribe, from whom the province derives its ancient appellation of Kuthair. This part of the country is remarkable for several individuals, who, to profound Mohammedan learning, unite considerable acquaintance with the English language and especially with European mathematical science.

His Lordship arrived at Agra, on the 8th January, and took up his residence with Mr. Saunders. The Bhurtpore minister had an audience on the 9th, and his Lordship had consented to visit that citadel. We are happy to learn that the climate of the upper provinces, during the latter part of the journey, had exercised a most beneficial effect upon the health of both Lord and Lady Amherst. His Lordship had visited the Taj, and expressed himself much gratified by this specimen of Asiatic architecture. It was expected that the party would remain at Agra four or five days longer.

NATIVE PAPERS.

Maharaja Sindhia.—According to the Ukbhars this Chief has been seriously ill: his decease has even been expected. Meantime his territories appear to be in great disorder; his zemindars are not only refractory, but appear in arms against his authority; and some of his troops have mutinied on account of arrears of pay. An action was fought between Maharao Tehsildar and the refractory Zemindars of Kerauli Ghat, the former was not able to force the Ghat for two or three days, when the insurgents were put to the sword.

Runjit Singh.—This Chief is at variance with his tributaries. The French officers

officers in his service are making preparations for the advance of the Rajah's army to the confines of Peshawar, to enforce the payment of tribute by Yar Mahomed Khan: the latter had commenced operations against Jelalabad. The chief of the Deroh Khyber, and the Yusofzees also refused to pay the stimulated sums, and were also the objects of Runjit's preparations. The Maharaja crossed the Rawee on the 8th December.

Jeyapore.—The ceremony of placing the young Raja on the throne of state, took place on the 4th November; Sir C. Metcalfe and the British Resident assisting.

Sir Charles Metcalfe left Jeyapore on the 20th November. The affairs of the state of Jeyapore were finally arranged by the Political Agent, with the acquiescence of the Rani, in the following manner:—That during the minority of the young Raja, her Highness should be invested with the power of administration, and an especial and experienced minister should be appointed, who would be able to secure to the Company the share of the money due to them, and manage the pecuniary affairs of the Maha Raja, so that no part of the public money shall be misappropriated: the young Raja will hold the public audiences regularly, and the Thakurs and principal chiefs will attend the court and preserve their mutual affinity; for the dissensions of the chiefs are the only causes of disorder in a state.—Rao Chand Singh, who was, after the dismissal of Raol Barisal, substituted in his room, was appointed by her highness, aid-de-camp to the Maha Raja, in the room of Thakur Megh Singh, and received an honorary dress; he was also in conjunction with Barisal of Mejown entrusted with the money affairs of the honourable Company: Chottaram, Hookum Chund and others were dismissed from the public situations they held; Pandarans, &c. were deprived of the power of interference in the government; Raol Barisal was restored to his office with the assurance that he would in no way be molested by the Maha Raja, and that his wishes would be studied by her highness the Rani. The Rani interceded on behalf of the twenty-two Thakurs partizans of Raol Barisal, but it was not accepted. The Agent then further notified, that during the minority of the Raja all the chiefs of the state were to know that the management of the state affairs by her highness was just and proper. It was also ordered by the council in Calcutta, that no manner of arrangement should be made without the Rani's consent.—*Jami Jehan Nooma.*

HINDOO COLLEGE.

We had no adequate notion of the extraordinary progress made by some of the young men at this excellent institution.

The system pursued is one admirably calculated to instil solid and useful knowledge, and we are quite satisfied from personal observation, that it succeeds in effecting this object. Some of the boys are well versed in the elements of English grammar and literature, and can translate passages from Bengalee into English, and from English into Bengalee, &c. Others again are well grounded in arithmetic, and the elements of natural philosophy and physics; and it is most satisfactory to observe, that they *think* upon these subjects. Any one may satisfy himself that what they have acquired is not by rote, for they are subjected to rigid cross examinations, and the reply of one boy will be found to differ widely from that of another, implying not merely an exercise of the faculty of memory, but of reflection and thought on the matter studied. Altogether this is truly a most interesting institution, and will, we have no doubt, prove a very effective engine of improvement. The youth educated at this College will acquire a taste for European literature, which cannot fail of leading to more important results, and of greatly ameliorating the state of society. The academical duties are carried on with the most praise-worthy assiduity and talent, and the establishment, in a word, reflects infinite credit on its patrons, and all connected with it.—*India Gazette, Jan. 11.*

IMPROVEMENTS.

We are happy to hear, that a special committee of artillery and engineer officers met yesterday morning, at the Water-gate Sortie of Fort William, for the purpose, we believe, of reporting upon certain military obstacles to the proposed continuation of the Strand via Fort William, (West side) to Garden Reach. We have not yet heard whether the report of the committee is favourable or otherwise; but we hope and expect the wishes and convenience of the public will prevail over the fears of Fort William's over-anxious friends, who appear to think that the proposed road will not only lead to Garden Reach, but to the loss of that fortress. A report is very current that another new road, parallel with the present course, or nearly so, and admirably calculated for equestrians, will take a slice out of the esplanade on the east side of the fort.—*Beng. Hurk. Nov. 29.*

PRODUCTS OF OUR TERRITORIES IN AYAC.

We are happy to find that the advantages we have been accustomed to contemplate, as derivable from the newly acquired possessions on the Tenasserim coast, have already begun to afford a prospect of being realized in the superior quality of their staple commodities. Of one of these, cotton,

cotton, we understand, that samples recently received have been pronounced by the best judges superior to the best Banda cotton, which at the present market rate is at 13-8 to 14 rupees per bazar maund. The Banda cotton has obtained in the English markets, a 'decided' preference over even the Jalone, which was till then considered as the best grown in Hindostan. The superiority of the Tenasserim cotton to the Banda is, therefore, an additional advance of quality, which affords some hope of its competing with the American Sea Island cotton, to which, in its localities, it offers some analogy.—*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Dec. 14.*

CHINESE TRADER.

A report having been spread that the Chinese junk, which lately arrived here from Mergui, had come through the Malay peninsula, by means of a communication between the head waters of two rivers, which flow into the opposite seas, we have taken some pains to inquire into the truth; for though we considered the existence of a navigable channel, to say the least, highly problematical, we thought it possible that the story might only be the exaggeration of an actual voyage up some of the rivers of that country, which are still very imperfectly known. We have, however, learnt that there is nothing unusual in the route pursued by this vessel, and that her voyage has been very erroneously stated to have been of extraordinary duration, a circumstance which has probably arisen from the Chinese commander imperfectly understanding the questions put to him. The junk's passage from Mergui has not exceeded twenty-two days. The cargo consists principally of sapan wood, which it appears is now in great demand at Mergui, and the prices obtained have been so unusually high, as to induce the woodcutters to make a second cutting this year, contrary to their usual practice. We believe this is the first junk which has visited Calcutta from any of our new acquisitions; we shall be glad to hear that the voyage has been sufficiently profitable to induce these industrious people to come in numbers to our port.—*Beng. Hurk. Dec. 7.*

STAMP DUTY.

It is rumoured very generally and widely, that the imposition of a stamp duty, on acknowledgments for money paid and received, is in contemplation at this presidency, by orders from, and under the authority of, the Board of Control.—*John Bull, Jan. 10.*

INLAND NAVIGATION.

The *Gov. Gazette*, with reference to the increasing number of steam vessels, employed in the inland navigation of India,

states, that the Court of Directors have authorized, on the representation of the Bengal government, the construction of machinery for two large boats, drawing but three feet water, to be propelled each by a pair of engines, each being of twenty-five horse power. "The original destination of these steam boats," it is added, "is the Brahmaputra river, on which they are, if possible, more required than on the Ganges, as there is not only the same vast space to be traversed, and the same precipitous current to be encountered, but there is a want of that counterpoise, which the course of the Ganges affords, when the current is strongest, and the river most navigable, a favourable wind. During the rains, the prevailing wind along the Brahmaputra is as adverse as the river, at least beyond the point at Dhombree, where it takes an easterly direction. The difficulty of tracking is also much greater along the Brahmaputra, than the Ganges, as the continual traffic along the latter, and the uninterrupted recurrence of villages and cultivations have made a regular road upon the banks, whilst the Brahmaputra is bounded, through very considerable intervals, by dense and inhospitable jungle. A mile a day in such situations, and under such circumstances, is a fair average advance, and a voyage from Dacca to Rungpore in Asam, is fully equal in duration to a voyage to Europe. Here, therefore, a steam boat will be of inconceivable importance, for the conveyance of troops, or supplies, and the transit of public officers, either on board the vessel or on others, to be tracked up the river by the steamer. The existence of coal in Sylhet, and its recent discovery in Asam, are circumstances highly favourable to the employment of steam boats on the rivers of our Eastern frontier."

RAJA BUDDINATH ROY.

On Saturday last, the generous Raja Buddinath Roy, entertained a select and respectable body of ladies and gentlemen, at his garden-house on the Barrackpore road, among whom was the Right Hon. the Vice President. The amusements of the evening consisted of wrestling, and fights between several kinds of beasts. In the former, the natives shewed great dexterity, and considerable time elapsed before each knocked his fellow down; but with respect to the latter, the animals were too timid and domesticated to engage in any thing like a contest. Some native jugglers performed some remarkable feats, to the astonishment of the admiring company.

At his departure his lordship and the whole of the party expressed their utmost satisfaction with the amusements and entertainments provided by this hospitable native gentleman.—*Beng. Hurk. Dec. 13.*

MISREPRESENTATIONS ON INDIAN SUBJECTS.

We have had occasion more than once, in common, we believe, with our contemporaries, to express surprise at the marvellous nonsense respecting India, which occasionally issues from the press at home. The principal cause of this is, the apathy respecting this country, which has hitherto prevailed in England. Is it not surprising, that at any rate people who have near relatives in the country do not study even its geography better? Among our European selections for to-day will be found a notable specimen of that misrepresentation and nonsense respecting India, alluded to above. It is taken from the *Times*, and is an extract from a work, which we have not seen, said to have been written by a Captain Deville, of the French Marine.* A correspondent of the *Times* having inquired what had become of the sons of Tippoo Saib, another correspondent refers him to the correct Captain Deville. From this scrupulous gentleman we learn, for the first time, most extraordinary circumstances respecting the Mysore Princes. We had always heard that the personages in question were very comfortably situated at this presidency; nay, for many years the people of Calcutta have been accustomed to see them riding about Calcutta, and pursuing their own avocations and recreations. For that matter, we have had the honour of meeting them frequently ourselves; and certainly, persons less attenuated, or woe-begone, we have seldom seen. In all this, however, there must be some extraordinary delusion; for the sons of Tippoo, according to Captain Deville (who says he had the story from a generous and sentimental old Scotch Officer), are most shockingly treated. "Yes,"—observes this sympathetic and veracious historian—"these illustrious victims of ambition and despotism, are confined, with the greatest rigour, in a close and unhealthy prison, about six miles from Calcutta." The abode, we are told, "is surrounded with double walls and fosses, and is about a mile in circuit." The Scotch Officer it seems got into a scrape for endeavouring to sweeten the durance, and alleviate the misery of these "illustrious victims." The captain, however, does not rest entirely on the Scotch Officer's story: it seems he has visited Calcutta, and conversed with the "illustrious victims." It is natural for French vanity to be sorely galled at the state of British ascendancy in the East, and especially with reference to Tippoo, whom French intrigue led to his ruin. We could hardly have expected, however, such misrepresentation as we have alluded to. If

the whole book is made up of the like precious stuff, as that quoted by the *Times* correspondent, it must be a very valuable work, and fit to be placed on the same shelf with the volume of the French General, who, a few years ago, represented English ladies to be so inveterately given to the bottle, that they might be seen reeling gloriously about the streets at noon-day!—*Ind. Gaz.* Dec. 11.

RUMOURED MURDER OF CAPTAIN MONK.

A rumour has been, for some days past, afloat of an atrocious murder having been perpetrated up the country. The following is an extract of a letter from a correspondent at Chunar of the 16th instant, which contains all the particulars that have reached us:—

"We have just been alarmed by a very melancholy story of the murder of Captain Monk, paymaster of H. M.'s 31st. Regt., who was attacked by Dakoys in his bidgeerow between Mirzapore and Allahabad. The dandies escaped, but it is supposed he was thrown overboard, as the body has not been found, and he was a brave man likely to make resistance. No doubt the matter will be amply investigated, but as yet no traces of the robbers have been found."—*Bengal Chronicle*, Dec. 27.

PROJECTED CALCUTTA CLUB.

We are happy to find that a plan is under consideration for the establishment of a club in Calcutta, similar to those instituted in London, such as the United Service Club and others, which have proved there so successful. It can scarcely be necessary to observe, that if such associations have been found beneficial in London, where so many and such various resources offer themselves, they will be infinitely more serviceable in Calcutta, where nothing like a respectable hotel or coffee house has ever existed. To form such an institution on a liberal scale, demands an outlay of capital, which few persons of the class of tavern-keepers possess, and to make the resort of company, even reasonably select, requires a command of character and funds, which they cannot be expected to enjoy. At the same time, the want of some such place is sensibly felt, as whilst those, who constitute the society of Calcutta, have no place where they can spend an idle half hour, agreeably, those, who are occasional visitants only, find themselves often utterly strangers and forlorn. To both classes, therefore, some one building, which shall be always open to them, which they may securely and pleasantly visit, where, on reasonable terms, they may procure the accommodation they require, and where they may have a chance of meeting with old friends and acquaintance, without the trouble of searching for them perhaps in vain,

* *Lettres sur le Bengale, écrites des bords du Gange, par F. Deville, Capitaine de Marine, 1 vol. in 18mo, Paris, 1826.*

vain, and where the formality of inter-changing cards may be substituted for more cordial greeting, will, we conceive, be an arrangement of such obvious advantage, that to be successful, it needs only to be known. We are, therefore, satisfied, that the following sketch of the principles on which the club is to be established, with which we have been favoured, will be read with interest. They were adopted, we understand, at a private meeting of several distinguished members of the civil and military services, held at the Town Hall, on the 29th of last month:—

1st. That the club should consist of the members of the King's and Company's service, of a certain standing, and of the bench and bar of this presidency.

2d. That with a view to extend the benefits of the club to other branches of the society of the presidency, a limited number of the members of other professions should likewise be invited to join the club. The number to be regulated hereafter, with reference to the total number of subscribers to the institution.

3d. The following seem to be the most advisable limits of admission for members of the several services of the Bengal presidency:—Civil servants:—Officers of his Majesty's and the Hon. Company's military and medical services, of seven years' service, taken from the day of appointment.—*Ecclesiastical*, unlimited.—*Bench and Bar*, unlimited.—*Hon. Company's Marine and regular service*, captains.

4th. That in addition to the above, the following classes should be admitted as honorary and occasional members;

Members of the above mentioned services at the other presidencies, or in his Majesty's service generally, eligible under the stated limitations;

All commissioned officers of his Majesty's navy, belonging to the India station;

The personal staff of the Governor General and Commander in Chief, (not eligible as permanent members);

The personal staff of Governors and Commanders in Chief of the other presidencies.

5th. Any gentleman resident in India, eligible under the above limitations, who may communicate his desire to belong to the club, before the 1st of February next, to be considered an original member.

Gentlemen arriving in India within one year after the above date, if eligible, to have the same option.

Gentlemen now absent from India, similarly eligible, to be allowed the same option, provided their desire to become members be communicated to the Secretary within eighteen months from the above date.

After the above date, all persons not entitled to become original members, must

be elected by ballot, under such rules as may hereafter be determined on.

Members of the United Service Club in London, to have the option of becoming members with ballot, on intimating their wish within one month after their arrival in Calcutta.

6th. The club to provide a coffee room, reading room, billiard room, and card room. Also, sleeping apartments for members arriving at the presidency, as many as may be required, and under regulations to be hereafter determined.

7th. To provide for the out-fit of the club, an entrance subscription of Sa. Rs. 250, will be necessary, from every original and other permanent member, besides an annual subscription of 100 rupees, if resident in Calcutta, or within 100 miles, and one-fourth of that amount, if resident beyond that limit. Honorary and occasional members to pay only the annual subscription.

Any member availing himself of the advantages of the club, if resident at the presidency for a period equal to one month in any year, to pay the full rate of subscription for that year.

Members absent in Europe, to be exempted from the payment of their subscription during such absence.

All subscriptions to be made in advance.

8th. On the 1st of February next, 1827, a meeting will be held at the Town Hall, of all persons eligible on the above principles, as original members, and desirous of joining the association; when the club will be formed, the limitation of the number of members fixed, and a committee elected for the purpose of forming rules and regulations for the management of the club.

P. M. Wynch, Esq., of the Bengal civil service, has, for the present, consented to officiate as Secretary, and will receive all communications that may be made on the subject of the association.—*Government Gazette*, Dec. 11.

THE NATIVE PRESS.

We observe from an announcement by the editor of the *Jami Jehan Numa*, that the Government has been pleased, upon the petition of the proprietor, to authorise the Up-country circulation of that paper, at one-fourth of the postage hitherto charged; a satisfactory proof of the interest taken by the supreme authority in the dissemination of useful information amongst its native subjects. The Persian and Bengali papers published at Serampore, are also liberally patronised by the Government, and a number of copies are subscribed for, for the use of the public offices and institutions. Both the Serampore papers and the *Jami Jehan Numa* contain extensive and accurate translations.

of every thing like real information that is found in the Calcutta papers, as well as various articles from the English journals, and must, therefore, introduce much new and useful matter to native minds. The *Jami Jehan Numa* is also further recommended to Up-country circulation by a Hindustani sheet, wholly appropriated to translation, and which, for a long period past, has been occupied with a history of Bonaparte. A more generally serviceable paper, however, for the Hindus of the Upper provinces would be the *Udanta Martanda*, as written in a much purer style, and printed in the Deva Nagari character. It is not, however, so well conducted, nor is it yet, we believe, in great request amongst the natives, even in Calcutta, whilst beyond the presidency, the name is unknown. However, it will, probably, work its way in time, and may then become the vehicle of much valuable novelty.—*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Nov. 27.*

FIGHT BETWEEN A TIGER AND AN ALLIGATOR.

By a part of the Sunderbunds, called Athara Baki, of very thick jungle, but through which a creek runs, a boat was passing lately, when the crew observed a large tiger come to the water's edge to drink; an alligator on the bank seized hold of him, but the tiger resisted, and a contest ensued, which lasted for two hours, each seizing and grappling with the other, and the tiger alarming the whole forest with his roar. At last the alligator succeeded in dragging the tiger into the water, who then became alarmed, and letting go his hold of the alligator, the latter seemed glad to be released, and the tiger made off.—*Sumbad Kaumudi.*

PROGRESS OF EDUCATION AMONGST THE NATIVES.

The *Gov. Gazette*, with reference to the schools belonging to the Ladies' Society for Native Female Education, contains the following remarks:—

"It appears, from the last report of the society, that they support thirty schools in Calcutta, containing the aggregate number of 600 children, who are taught reading and writing, and some of them needlework—this latter branch of female education, not the least useful, will, it is expected, be more extensively taught, when the children are more generally collected in the Central School, which is in the course of construction, at Symlia, and the expense of which has been in great part provided for, by the liberal donation of Raja Baidynath Rai, of 20,000 rupees, as formerly mentioned. The society seems to have met with liberal support, which we trust will be continued, as, although the immediate good produced, may be dis-

proportionate to the cost, the zeal, and the talent bestowed upon these institutions, the result to be importantly beneficial, needs only perseverance. It is no part of the genuine Hindu system to degrade their women. They may, perhaps, like the nations of classical antiquity, have imposed upon them more retired manners and habits than the ladies of modern Europe would like to submit to, but they refused them neither knowledge nor respect. Their sacred books assign the highest veneration to the character of the wife and mother, and in their lighter works, we find the principal females, and their companions and attendants, not only able to read and write, but they sing, play, dance, paint portraits, and compose verses, and surpass, therefore, in accomplishments, even the accomplished young ladies of modern days in other climes. Nay, the female professor of Padua has been not unfrequently preceded in the schools of Benares and Ougein; and Tamul literature, in the writings of Avyar, can produce a female moralist and philosopher. There is nothing, therefore, in the past history, nor in the social system, of the Hindus, which denies to females the possession or exercise of the intellectual faculties; and their cultivation should be particularly recommended to a race so domestic in their habits as the people of the East, as calculated to give their privacy a pleasure, which it seems once to have commanded, and which it may again enjoy."

THE TURF.

Calcutta First December Meeting; First Day, Monday 11th.—The sixth year of the Riddlesworth-Stakes of fifty gold mohurs each h. ft. and fifteen if declared, &c. for the produce of mares, named in 1822. Colts, 8st. 7lb. Fillies, 8st. 4lb.—(Gilbert Mile.)—(10 subscribers.)

Mr. Robert's b. c. Scorpion, by Benedict, Dam, Mcg Merrilies, (T. Wiley)..... 1
Mr. Edward's gr. c. Cheetoo, by Pindarrie, Dam Romp, Drawn..... 2
2 Subscribers paid h. ft. and 6 paid only 15 Gold Mohurs each.

Scorpion took the lead, and kept it throughout, winning with great ease in 2m. 4s. This is the first year that the Benedict and Pindarrie blood have met at 3 year olds, and the Merut breeders have displayed marked superiority.

The Third year of the Great Walter-Stakes of 10 Gold Mohurs each, for Arabs that never won, 11st. 7lb. Gentlemen riders, R. C.—(28 subscribers.)

Col. Gilbert's gr. h. Esterhazy, (Mr. J. Low), 1
Col. Gilbert's gr. h. Hajj Baba 2
Mr. Edward's b. h. Humdanes, (supposed Griffin)..... 2

Mr. Allan's gr. h. The Pearl, Mr. Griffin's gr. h. Uniformity, and Mr. James' gr.

gr. h. Slug, also started; but the Judge placed only the first three.

3 to 1 agt. Humdance, 2 to 1 agt. Esterhazy, and 6 to 1 agt. Haji Baba—Time 3m. 42s.

This race excited the greatest interest, as the best Arabs have been sought after even at Babylon for the purpose. Humdance was the favourite at 3 to 2 against Esterhazy, and very high odds against any other. In the morning, however, 2 to 1 was freely taken upon Esterhazy against the field. The whole six started together, Slug taking the lead, at the whip, from the post, rating it with Haji Baba. Slug was beaten at the Calcutta turn, when Esterhazy took the lead, hard held. At the Jail Humdance run up to Esterhazy's girth, and made a severe struggle for $\frac{1}{4}$ th of a mile, when he fell off, and Esterhazy won easy, in 3m. 42s. Considering the Welter Weights, this is decidedly the quickest thing ever done by Arabs over the Calcutta course. The riding of Esterhazy was considered very masterly.

Subsequently, the owner of the horse that started as "Humdance, supposed to be 'Griffin,'" has discovered that he is the Bombay horse, who won as a four years old, under the latter name, on the other side of India.

Match for 200 Gold Mohurs.—h. ft.—T. M.

Mr. Gilbert's b. A. h. Paragon, 11st. (Col. Gilbert.)	1
Mr. George's ch. A. h. Claude, 11st.	2

Even betting, but Paragon for choice.

The Bombay horse had been very freely backed against the Bengallee, as he had brought a great name from the provincial turf. But Paragon was the favourite with the Calcutta sportsmen, and his power of carrying heavy weight was well known. Paragon started at a steady pace, Claude lying well in the rear. He made his push at the Hospital turn, but could not collar the honest old horse, who won by three lengths, in 4m. 22s.

Second Day, Wednesday 13th.—The sport this day was not so good as on Monday.

Sweepstakes of 25 gold-mohurs each; for Arabs that never won, 3st. 7lb.—T. M.

Mr. Clanch's ch. h. Cavalier, (Watkins)	1
Mr. James' gr. h. Slug	2

Col. Gilbert's Walton, Mr. James' Slug, and Mr. Alexander's Tony Lumpkin, also started, but the Judge only placed the first two.

This was a most interesting sweepstakes, there being no decided favourite; but Snob, Walton and Slug were most fancied. The two first were backed freely against the field. All five started well together—a sheet would have covered the field, Slug leading up to the Gilbert mile post. At that point, Cavalier took the lead, and made very strong running to the jail, with

Walton lying head to girth. At the jail, Walton fell off; when Slug made a second very gallant push, but could not collar the little horse, who won by three lengths, in 4m. 8s. This is one of the fastest Maiden Races ever won by Arabs over the Calcutta Course, and both Slug and Walton were well up.

Third Day, Friday 15th.—Match for 50 Gd.-mrs.—h. ft.—T. M.

Mr. Marjoribanks' ch. C. h. Master Edward, 10st. (S. Frost.)	1
Mr. Alexander's b. E. m. Minna, 8st.	2

Time 4m. 11s.

This was a beautiful race. Master Edward went away from the post, in spite of the weight, making terrible running, hard held. At the great Tree, the mare was beat, and Edward came the last mile and a half at his own pace, winning with great ease, in 4m. 11s. This splendid horse was bred by Colonel Stevenson, out of Tarantula, who never threw a bad one.

Match for 100 Gd.-mrs. h. ft.—G. M.

Mr. James Jackson's b. A. h. Snob, 8st. (S. Frost.)	1
Mr. Alexander's gr. A. h. Fairplay, 8st.	2

Time 2m. 1s.

This also was a most interesting race. Fairplay took the lead, and brought Snob to the whip at the Jail. But Snob took the Crowther very kindly, and collared his adversary between the $\frac{1}{4}$ th mile post and the distance post. Fairplay swerved from the whip, and Snob won a first rate race without a pull in him in 2, 1. This is the Madras Fairplay. The Bombay horse of that name is going to England.—*John Bull.*

THE THEATRE.

The *Clandestine Marriage* was performed at the Chowringhee Theatre last night, The weather was fine, and the moon, though not full, gave sufficient light to render the drive agreeable—the air was sufficiently sharp to give a hue to the cheek of beauty, which the burning summer of India denies. The house was full and brilliant; his Excellency the Vice President honoured the performance, and our grand national air was finely performed, and received enthusiastically. The orchestra of this theatre improves rapidly; there has been considerable accession of late to the performers, and the subjects are tastefully and judiciously selected.

Lord Ogleby was beyond all praise; his character is one depending on such nice discrimination, that it is no easy task to do it justice. He however exceeded expectation, which was not unexcited by his *Sir Peter Teazle*—every sentence he delivered bore testimony of his excellence—it is useless to point out particulars where all was alike excellent. *Sterling*, as far as lan-

guage went, was all we could require—his appearance, people say, was rather unfavourable to the idea of the wealthy citizen, although we cannot for our lives see why a London merchant is compelled to be either fat or thin, long or short. *Lowell* was free and graceful – if a share of his surplus animation had been given to his unsuccessful rival, *Melvil*, it would, probably, have been better for both. *Canton* was performed by one who seems thoroughly to comprehend his author—a sort of subordinate toad-eater—the very shadow of his master, who echoes his opinions, laughs at his jests, and flatters his weakness unceasingly—it was excellent. *Brush* was a creditable effort, and all the subordinate “limbs of the law” were quite au fait at their parts. *Mrs. Heidelberg* was an excellent performance—it was unfortunate that the raucity of the voice broke in on the illusion, which would otherwise have been complete.

The vulgar citizen's daughter found a correct representation in the *Miss Sterling* of the play. The scenes in which she vents her disappointed feelings, were in most instances well managed; her style, however, has too much sameness. *Betty* and the female domestics generally did their parts correctly and creditably. On the whole, we were much gratified with the amusements of the evening: some of the performers left nothing to be wished for in the performance of their parts, and the whole were perfect in the text, in which they have, on former occasions, sometimes been deficient.—*Beng. Hurk. Dec. 2.*

ROADS IN ASAM.

Under the Native Governments of Asam, a ready access was maintained to all parts of that country, at every season of the year, by the construction of broad and elevated causeways, over which passed practicable roads, when all the rest of the surface was under water. In the course of time, and during the political convulsions by which Asam, for nearly a century, has been torn to pieces, these causeways, or Bunds, have disappeared, and the want of roads has contributed to perpetuate the evil whence it originated, the depopulation and desertion of the kingdom. One of the principal of these Bunds, which was said to extend through the whole length of Asam, from Cooch Behar to Sadya, and which was constructed in the reign of Gadadhar Singh, has been lately made the subject of enquiry, and the condition in which it has been found, and its utter inapplicability to the purposes of its original formation, are strikingly illustrative of the condition of Asam, in which so vast a work could be suffered to fall to such careless ruin. At the point where it was visited, about two

miles north from Lakhomati Bhoteya Gaom, it runs through a thick forest, infested with wild beasts of every species. It follows a direction N. 55 E., and divides the district of Noa Dewar, in Asam, from the Dufia district, the land on the north side of the Bund belonging to the Dufia Raja, whilst the Bund itself, and the country to the south, are included within the boundaries of Asam proper. The Bund at this place is about eighteen feet broad, and is generally eight feet in height, but in many other parts it is nearly effaced, and is very generally hidden by brushwood, or even by trees of many years growth. At a short distance to the north, is a small hill rivulet named the Deiring, running in a bed of sand and siliceous stones, amongst which are found pieces of half-formed coal. The Dufias, to the northward of the Bund, are a powerful hill tribe, inhabiting the second range of hills. They carry on an active traffic with Asam, bringing down rock-salt and coarse red woollens, and carrying back a return in fish, buffaloes' flesh, and coarse silk. Their nearest village is about eight miles to the north of the Bund, which, in this part of its extent, is said to have served as a boundary line. There are no villages immediately on its course, and from its being so thoroughly overrun with jungle, it is now utterly impassable.—*Cal. Govt. Gazette.*

ORIENTAL LITERARY SOCIETY.

We have been gratified in the perusal of the third half-yearly report of the Oriental Literary Society (composed of Indo-Britons); we have no doubt but the Institution has done good, and will continue beneficially effective by cherishing a literary and generally inquisitive spirit among that class for whose use it was more especially, we believe, founded. It is not so much as respects the acquisition of mere oratory that we regard this Society with feelings of satisfaction (although that accomplishment should never be underrated); but with reference to its improving powers on juvenile minds, as exciting emotions of generous emulation, and leading to habits of reading and of *thinking*. He who is anxious to speak on a given question, must in general study the arguments for and against it. He must read, and this Society naturally must beget a love of reading, reflection, and study, because it points out a certain object. Give an object, and let that object be rendered a spur to ambition, and the effect will always be such as we anticipate from this Institution—a general improvement of the mental faculties, and an inducement to habits of literary reflection. We hope, therefore, that the more influential persons connected with this Society will continue to give it their active support,

port, and not be discouraged by any apparent want of interest on the part of the public at large. As yet the Society is but young. Ere long, we doubt not, that as the sphere of its energies and usefulness enlarges, it will attract that general notice which the philanthropic nature of this interesting institution deserves.—*Ind. Gaz.*

STEAM NAVIGATION.

A general meeting of the subscribers to the fund for the encouragement of Steam Navigation between Great Britain and India, was held at the Town-Hall, on the 17th January, Chas. Lushington, Esq. in the chair.

After commenting on the praiseworthy exertions of Capt. Johnston, of the *Enterprise*, the chairman proffered the following resolution :

That the cordial thanks of this meeting be voted to Captain Johnston, for the prominent, zealous, and active part which he has taken in the establishment of Steam Navigation in this country, and that the amount of one-half of the funds now accumulated, be granted to him, as a mark of the respect and gratitude of the subscribers, for his perseverance, intrepidity; and public spirit.

The motion was seconded by Commodore Hayes; when Mr. G. A. Prinsep proposed, seconded by Mr. Colvin, as an amendment to this proposition, that with reference to claims which would be brought forward at this meeting, on the part of the proprietors of the *Enterprise* steam vessel, and Mr. James Taylor, that the sum of 20,000 rupees was a sufficient remuneration for Capt. Johnston.

This amendment was negatived, and the original proposition carried.

A letter was read by the chairman, from Messrs. Cruttenden, McKillop, and Co., from the committee appointed by the proprietors of the *Enterprise*, stating the losses incurred in this speculation, and claiming compensation from the fund to the amount of their loss. It was proposed by Mr. Colvin, and seconded by Mr. McKillop, and carried unanimously, that such claim was inadmissible.

It was proposed by Capt. Forbes, and seconded by Major Jackson, that the remaining moiety of the funds be held at the disposal of the committee for two years, for the purpose of remunerating any successful attempt, within that period, which may carry into effect the object of the original subscription, or otherwise appropriate it under the 6th clause of the resolution passed at a meeting held at the Town-Hall on the 17th December, 1823.

It was proposed by Mr. G. A. Prinsep, seconded by Commodore Hayes, as an amendment to this proposition: That the remaining moiety of the funds should be

given to Mr. James Taylor, in compensation for the heavy losses he has sustained in his efforts to establish the steam communication between Great Britain and India. This amendment was negatived, and the proposition carried.

EARTHQUAKE.

Calcutta was yesterday visited by an earthquake; it occurred at XI. 22. 19, A.M. as ascertained by its having stopped an astronomical clock at Mr. Gray's. The pendulum of this clock vibrates from W. S.W. to E. N. E. the face of the clock being opposite to N. N. W. Another of Mr. Gray's astronomical clocks, which faces the W. S. W., and the pendulum of which accordingly vibrates from N. N. W. to S. S. E., was not stopped. A third astronomical clock on the same premises, placed facing the E. S. E., was not going when the earthquake occurred, but the pendulum was set in motion by the shock, and continued to go until stopped.—*Beng. Hurk, Jan. 20.*

The editor of the *Government Gazette* suggests that the shock was connected with some volcanic eruption amongst the islands on the east of the Bay of Bengal.

The shock of an earthquake was felt also at Burdwan, at half-past 11, A.M. on Friday the 19th January: it continued for a minute and a half, and was felt most distinctly by persons sitting on chairs; and the doors, windows, and furniture, were much and evidently agitated during its continuance.

THE MONEY MARKET.

A general scarcity of money, and sudden and extreme fluctuations in the money market, have been for a long time serious and general causes of complaint amongst men of business in this city. A cotemporary mentions that an attempt is now making to dispose of a large quantity of Company's paper amongst the natives in the upper provinces, which, if successful, is expected to relieve the pressure which is now felt here. The wants of the government may, however, still affect the market, which will scarcely return to a state of abundance till it is clearly ascertained that government are not again likely to be borrowers. We have heard that it is in contemplation to establish a new bank. If it is to be merely a private concern, it cannot be expected to afford much greater facilities than those already existing; but if a public joint-stock bank could be brought into operation, quite unconnected with government, and reserving its capital wholly for the legitimate objects of banking, there is no doubt that it might be the means of affording much relief to the trading community.—*Beng. Hurk. Jan. 22.*

SHIPPING.

Arrivals in the River.

Jan. 1. *Victory*, Farquharson, from London.—
3. *Bride*, Brown, from Newcastle and London.—
8. *Columbia*, Kirkwood, from Liverpool.—18. *Cambridge*, Barber, from London and Penang.—
20. *Fort William*, Neish, from London.—23. *Royal George*, Reynolds, and *Mary Ann*, O'Brien, both from London.

Departures from Calcutta.

Dec. 20. *Hibernia*, Gillies, for London.—23. *Thalia*, Biden, and *Carnbra Castle*, Davey, both for London.—24. *William Money*, Jackson; *Morley*, Holiday; and *Anna Robertson*, Irving, all for London.—26. *Golconda*, Clark, for Bombay.—27. *Gilmore*, Laws, for the Mauritius.—Jan. 4. *John Taylor*, Pearce, for Liverpool.—5. *Ganges*, Mitford, for Liverpool, via Madras.—6. *Fabrie*, Short, for London.—7. *Research*, Dillon, for Malicolo Islands.—9. *Calcutta*, Stroyan, for Liverpool; also *Sarah*, Miller, and *Roberts*, Corbyn, both for London.—14. *Emma*, North, for Hull.—15. *Florentia*, Aldham, for London.—16. *John Hayes*, Worthington, for Liverpool.—19. *John*, Dawson, for the Mauritius.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Oct. 17. At Juanpore, the lady of Major Shewers, 4th Extra N.I., of a daughter.
18. At Nusseerabad, the lady of Lieut. and Adj. Thomson, 56th N.I., of a son.
Nov. 5. At Cawnpore, the lady of H. T. Owen, Esq., civil service, of a son.
— At Meerut, the lady of Major Wm. Persse, H.M.'s 16th Lancers, of a daughter.
17. At Meerut, the lady of Lieut. H. Garstin, 10th N.Cav., of a son.
19. On the river near Patna, the lady of Lieut. E. Rushworth, 2d Europ. Regt., of a daughter.
— At Sultanpore, Oude, the lady of Capt. C. Godby, 26th N.I., of a daughter.
— At Bankipore, the wife of Mr. J. Thompson, of a son.
25. At Meerut, Mrs. T. St. J. Hunter, of a daughter.
— The lady of R. Stewart, Esq., of a daughter.
— At Barrackpore, the lady of Capt. Wilkinson, 28th N.I., of a daughter.
— At Maldah, the lady of John Lamb, Esq., of a son.
— The lady of Capt. W. Clark, of a daughter.
— Mrs. Davidson, wife of Mr. A. Davidson, of the Adj. Gen.'s Office, of a daughter.
26. At Gusserah, Mrs. B. Barber, jun., of a daughter.
— At Dum-Dum, Mrs. J. Kinsella, of a daughter.
27. At Barrackpore, the lady of Capt. Dundas, of a son.
— The lady of Capt. Fraser, of a daughter.
— Mrs. A. Phillips, of a daughter.
29. At Fort William, the lady of Capt. Hemming, H.M.'s 44th regt., of a son.
— At Howrah, the lady of J. Mackenzie, Esq., of a son.
— Mrs. Thos. Brac, of a daughter.
30. At Chandernagore, the lady of H. Geneve, Esq., of a son.
— Mrs. J. Harwood, of a son.
Dec. 3. The lady of W. Denman, Esq., of a son.
— Mrs. G. H. Poole, of a son.
— Mrs. W. J. Gray, of a daughter.
— Mrs. Jonas Vaughan, of a daughter.
4. At Dacca, the lady of James Patton, Esq., of a daughter.
— At Ellichpore, the lady of Capt. H. Robison, of a son.
— In Fort William, the lady of Lieut. Y. C. Maclean, of a daughter.
5. At Bancoora, Jungle Mehals, the lady of the late Edw. Maxwell, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
— Sarah, wife of Mr. W. Peat, of the Bengal marine, of a son.

7. At Dinapore, Mrs. W. H. Jones, of a son.
11. At Purneah, the lady of W. Wollen, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
— Mrs. J. D'Santos, of a daughter.
9. At Meerut, the lady of Capt. Cureton, H.M.'s 16th Lancers, of a son.
— At Azingurh, the lady of Fred. Currie, Esq., civil service, of a son.
— At Chowringhee, the lady of J. Minchin, Esq., of a son.
— At Moradabad, the lady of Capt. G. B. Field, 23d regt., of a daughter.
10. At Bancoora, the lady of G. N. Check, Esq., civil surgeon, of a daughter.
— Mrs. W. D. Cameron, of a daughter.
— At Saharunpore, the lady of Lieut. H. De-bude, of engineers, of a son.
12. At Arah, district of Shahabad, Mrs. John Birmingham, of a son.
— Mrs. S. Frost, of a son.
13. At Hansi, the lady of Lieut. Col. H. E. G. Cooper, of a daughter.
14. At Duxar, the lady of H. Hailes, Esq., of a son.
15. The lady of Dr. Vos, of a daughter.
— The lady of the late Capt. E. T. Bradby, of a son.
— Mrs. W. Francis, of a daughter.
17. At Bareilly, the lady of Lieut. C. Griffiths, 37th N.I., of a son.
20. At Chandernagore, Mrs. L. Dias, of a son.
21. Mrs. M. David, of a son and heir.
22. Mrs. R. Locken, of a daughter.
24. At Entally, Mrs. Jessop, of a son.
25. At Hazareebaug, the lady of Capt. H. L. Playfair, of a daughter.
— At Dinapore, the lady of the Rev. T. N. Stevens, of a daughter.
29. The lady of J. F. Ellerton, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
31. Mrs. T. Brown, of a son and heir.
Jan. 2. At Entally, Mrs. P. S. Horn, of a son.
3. Mrs. John Pennitz, of a son and heir.
— At Dinapore, the lady of N. J. Halhed, Esq., second judge of Provincial Court of Appeal and Circuit for division of Moorshedabad, of a daughter.
4. At Bishergurh factory, district of Nuddea, Mrs. H. R. Cooper, of a son.
— At Dum-Dum, the lady of Lieut. W. J. Mac-vitie, of artillery, of a daughter.
5. The lady of L. Agabeg, Esq., of a son.
6. The lady of Mr. W. K. Ord, of a daughter.
— At Scaldah, the lady of Mr. W. Duhon, of a son.
9. At Shalpoor indigo factory, zillah of Tirhoot, Mrs. P. S. Johnson, of a son and heir.
10. At Benares, the lady of Lieut. G. H. Cox, 62d N.I., of a son.
13. At Dacca, the lady of J. M. Farnworth, Esq., 44th N.I., of a daughter.
14. The lady of Capt. J. Rowson, country service, of a daughter.
— At the Free School, Mrs. P. Sutherland, of a daughter.
18. Mrs. S. Dyson, wife of Mr. A. Dyson, of the firm of Higgs and Hunter, of a son.
19. At Dum-Dum, the lady of Lieut. Lane, artillery, of a daughter.
— Mrs. A. Fleming, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 6. At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. James Barber, surgeon and officiating assist. surg., to Mary, daughter-in-law of Capt. Hutchinson, H.M.'s 87th Foot.
15. At Bignore, J. A. C. de Terraneau, Esq., to Matilda Maria, only daughter of E. Delpeiron, Esq., of Chandernagore.
21. At Ghazepore, Capt. J. W. Douglas, political department, Malwah, to Fanny, fourth daughter of the late W. N. W. Hewett, Esq., formerly of the Bengal civil service.
22. At Jubulpore, Capt. J. N. S. Weston, dep. judge adv. gen., Saugur division, to Margaret, daughter of the late Rev. P. Nicolson, of Thurso, Caithness.
27. At the Cathedral, the Rev. E. Ray, to Miss Sarah Piffard.
— Mr. D. de Souza, to Mrs. H. Charles, relict of the late Mr. S. Charles, of Pooree.
— Mr. J. D'M. Sinaes to Ann Elizabeth Philadelphia, eldest daughter of S. Jones, Esq.

28. At

28. At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. S. Smith, youngest son of the late Capt. M. F. Smith, of Islamabad, Chittagong, to Ann, only daughter of the late C. Clavering, Esq.

29. Mr. P. D'Cruz to Miss A. C. Gordon.
Dec. 1. At Dinapore, Capt. Hugh O'Donel, brigade major in Assam, to Miss Jane Finch.

— At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. W. Wallis to Miss F. Maybery, of Kidderpore.

5. At St. John's Cathedral, Lieut. J. D. Nash, 33d N.I., to Miss Ellen Urnston.

6. At the Cathedral, Mr. C. Warden, H.C.'s marine, to Mrs. Carroll, relict of the late Lieut. J. G. Carroll, H.M.'s 59th regt.

9. At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. R. Allan to Jane, widow of the late Mr. Jones, H.C.'s marine.

10. At Moorshedabad, Mr. W. Hutchinson, son of J. Hutchinson, Esq., of Sultan Gunge, to Amelia Gregory, widow.

13. At the Residency, Lucknow, Lieut. J. L. Mowatt, of artillery, to Anna Maria, daughter of the late B. Fergusson, Esq.

21. At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. Bowser, headmaster of the Lower Orphan School, to Julia Matilda, second daughter of the late Mr. Harrison.

23. Mr. W. Swaine to Mrs. S. Morris.
28. At St. John's Cathedral, Wm. Jackson, Esq., to Jane, only daughter of the late John Ewing, of Belfast, formerly a captain in H.M.'s 64th Foot.

30. At the Cathedral, P. M. Wynch, Esq., civil service, to Sophia Martha, daughter of Maj. Maline.

Jan. 6. At the Armenian Church of St. Nazareth, Gregory Apar, Esq., of Bombay, to Cathkathoon, seventh daughter of the late Johannes Sarkies, Esq.

9. At St. John's Cathedral, C. Farquharson, Esq., commander of the ship *Victory*, to Louisa, fifth daughter of the late J. H. Cassamajor, Esq., formerly a member of council at Fort St. George.

— Mr. R. Burgess to Miss Rozario.
15. D. Pringle, Esq., of the civil service, to Frances, youngest daughter of the late A. Tod, Esq., of Edinburgh.

— At the Cathedral, Capt. F. C. Robb, dep. assist. qu. mast. gen., to Eliza, widow of the late Lieut. Suter, H.M.'s 1st or Royal Scots' Regt.

16. At the Scotch Kirk, Mr. J. Tash to Miss E. Hodgskinson.

17. At the Cathedral, Mr. T. Wilson, of Entally, to Mrs. A. Clarke.

Later. At Berhampore, Lieut. S. R. Bagshawe, 7th N.I., to Cornelia Eliza, eldest daughter of the late Brev. Capt. Locke, of the former 2d bat. 25th N.I.

— At Chinsurah, J. J. Anger, Esq., indigo manufacturer, to Eliza, eldest daughter of A. Black, Esq.

DEATHS.

Oct. 3. At Nagpore, Mr. G. T. Webb, of his Highness the Rajah's service, aged 26.

17. At Junpore, the lady of Maj. Shewers, 4th Extra N.I.

19. At Allahabad, Capt. E. T. Bradby, of the 4th Extra N.I., formerly of the 4th N.I.

19. At Amherst, near Martaban, Mrs. Ann F. Judson, lady of the Rev. Mr. Judson, American missionary, in her 37th year.

Nov. 2. At sea, on board the *James Sibbald*, Capt. Alfred Garstin, of the 56th N.I.

6. In a budgerow, on the river Jumna, near Etawah, Annabella, wife of Brev. Capt. Hilton, 16th Lancers.

9. On the river, near Cawnpore, Capt. T. C. Cowslade, 43d N.I., aged 39.

11. At Meerut, Mr. J. Mitchell, late Steward in H.M.'s 16th Lancers, aged 31.

13. At Cawnpore, Harriet, wife of Lieut. J. S. Rotton, of artillery, aged 27.

16. At Serampore seminary, Mr. John Dateman, aged 19.

19. On the Gauges, near Ghazepore, Ann, second daughter of Lieut. Col. C. J. Doveton, 38th N.I.

— At Serampore seminary, Mr. Dyer, who was drowned in one of the tanks.

21. At Kurnaul, Capt. W. Decluseau, 6th N.I.

— Mr. Semplicio Victory, aged 36.

— Charles, youngest son of Mr. W. Baxter, a master-pilot in the Bengal marine, aged nine years.

22. Clarinda, wife to Mr. John Muffin, aged 40.

24. At Ghazepore, Mr. R. Lally.

25. Miss Eliza Allen, aged 15 years.

27. Leonora, widow of the late D. Pereira, Esq., aged 70.

— Mr. N. O. Leighton.

29. At Neemchut, aged 47, Lieut. Col. Commandant Wm. Thomas, 10th N.I.

Dec. 1. At Berhampore, in his 63d year, Lieut. Col. Commandant James Paribby, of the corps of engineers, superintendent of embankments at Moorshedabad.

2. Eliza, widow of the late Capt. John Exshaw, aged 63.

— Mr. John Ritchey, of the Pension Establishment, aged 110.

4. Capt. R. C. Stevenson, H.M.'s 59th regt., aged 37.

5. Mr. G. T. Gibson, aged 43.

7. Mrs. M. R. Delanougere, aged 61.

— At Dinapore, Diana, wife of Mr. H. Watkins, aged 23.

8. At Allahabad, Clementina, wife of the Hon. James Ruthven Elphinstone.

11. At Loodieanah, Mrs. Torckler, aged 56.

13. At Jessore, Mrs. G. H. B. Gonsalves, aged 24.

15. At Futtighurh, Lieut. Col. John Leys, commanding 29th Bengal N.I.

16. At Kamptee, near Nagpore, Lieut. T. Dale, 41st N.I.

— At Barrielly, Mrs. M. Langley, late of Bencool, aged 43.

20. At his house in Chowringhee, in his 42d year, Maj. H. Nicholson, of the Bengal army, and late paymaster to all the troops in Ava.

— Sarah, wife of Mr. W. Pent, master in the H.C.'s marine, aged 30.

21. Mr. G. Crowe, aged 37.

24. E. C. Wilnot, Esq., of the civil service, aged 19.

— Robert Croil George, son of Mr. F. Lindstedt, aged 4 years.

27. At Chandernagore, Elizabeth, second daughter of Mons. J. Simonin, aged 19.

Jan. 1. Mr. John Myers, aged 37.

— At Backergunge, Mr. J. De Silva, aged 27.

2. Mr. B. Fairlie, aged 75.

4. Jane Harriet, lady of A. D. Rice, Esq., aged 20.

6. At Lucknow, Lieut. J. Martin, interp. and qu. mast., 3d N.I.

10. J. C. Paterson, Esq., assist. surg. in the H.C.'s service, and member of the Calcutta Medical Society, aged 32.

— Mr. J. O'Neale, of the Revenue Board.

13. Capt. J. Holmes, jun., of the country service, aged 34.

— Miss Frances Talling, aged 18.

15. At Daren, the Rev. Fr. Joaquin das Neves, Vigario at that place.

16. Mathew Harrison, Esq., aged 37.

17. Lieut. W. Mackey, 53d N.I., aged 31.

21. Manuel Petrusse, Esq., aged 42.

Madras.

COURTS MARTIAL.

LIEUT. FOTHERGILL, 48TH FOOT.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, Dec. 30, 1826.

—At a General Court-Martial held at Trichinopoly, on the 7th Nov. 1826, Lieut. W. Fothergill, of H.M.'s 48th regt. of Foot, was arraigned upon the undermentioned charges, viz.

1st. "For carrying a message from Ens. E. G. H. H. Gibbs, of the 48th regt., to Ens. H. Leech, of the same regiment, at the house of the latter in Trichinopoly, on the evening of the 14th of October, tending to provoke a duel, when it was known to the regiment that these two officers had been prohibited, in their original quarrel, by express order delivered to Ens. Gibbs, in presence of the Major of the regiment, on the 20th day of August."

"Such

"Such conduct being subversive of military discipline, and tending to disturb the harmony of the regiment."

2d. "For conduct, unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, while employed in delivering the message above alluded to, in making use of the following expressions to Ens. Leech: 'You are a damned coward; the meanest rascal ever joined the 48th—I'll be damned if I do not shoot you to-morrow morning if you do not take it up.'"

"Such language being in direct disobedience of the Articles of War, and the established usages and customs of the service."

Upon which Charges the Court came to the following decision:

Finding and Sentence.—"The Court having maturely weighed and considered all that has been adduced in support of the prosecution, as well as what has been brought forward on the defence, is of opinion that the prisoner, Lieut. W. Fothergill, of H.M.'s 48th regt., is guilty of the first part of the first charge, viz. 'For carrying a message from Ens. E. G. H. H. Gibbs, of the 48th regt., to Ens. H. Leech, of the same regiment, at the house of the latter in Trichinopoly, on the 14th Oct., tending to provoke a duel.' The court acquits the prisoner, Lieut. W. Fothergill, of the remaining part of the first charge."

"The Court is further of opinion, that the prisoner, Lieut. W. Fothergill, is guilty of the second charge."

"The court having found the prisoner, Lieut. W. Fothergill, guilty of the first part of the first charge, and also guilty of the second charge, which are in breach of the Articles of War, in such cases made and provided, does sentence him, the prisoner, Lieut. W. Fothergill, of H.M.'s 48th regt., to be cashiered."

Approved and confirmed,

(Signed) COMBENKERE, General,
Commander-in-chief.

Remarks by the Right Hon. the Commander-in-chief. Difficult as it is to the Commander-in-chief to reconcile it to his sense of duty to remit the penalty, consequent on a conviction of conduct unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, he trusts that there are circumstances in the case now before him, which will authorize his doing so without compromising the honour of the army.

His Lordship has come to this opinion on a perusal of the evidence of Lieut. Fothergill's commanding and brother officers, bearing the highest testimony to his correct and gentleman-like conduct, previous to the occasion under investigation, and his Lordship, from this very strong circumstance, hopes that he may consider the conduct of Lieut. Fothergill as an intemperate ebullition of youthful temper, or the

consequences of unguarded passion, as designated by the court, in their solicitation for mercy, rather than as a proof of vicious habit or want of principle. This impression on the minds of the members of the court, justified their strong recommendation, and is the ground on which his Excellency hopes he may be justified in extending to the prisoner that remission of sentence which has been requested.

The acquittal of the prisoner on the second part of the first charge exhibited against him, in some measure palliates that offence; and his Lordship trusts that he may rely on the prisoner's strong and apparently sincere expressions of contrition, and this severe warning, for a security against future misconduct.

His Excellency now desires that the officer commanding the 48th regt. will assemble the officers of the corps, and after reading to them the proceedings of this Court-Martial and his Lordship's observations thereon, will in their presence severely admonish Lieut. Fothergill. He will likewise take that occasion to point out to the officers generally the consequences of discord amongst themselves, assuring them that such spirit must be extinguished, and that any further instance of its existence which may come to his Lordship's notice, must be followed by the most serious consequences.

Lieut. Fothergill will then be released from arrest, and return to his duty.

The foregoing order is to be entered in the general order-book, and read at the head of every regiment in H.M.'s service in India.

By order of the Commander-in-chief,

A. MACDONALD,

Adj. Gen. of H.M.'s Army in India.

ENSIGN GIBBS, 48TH FOOT.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, Dec. 30th, 1826.—At a General Court-Martial held at Trichinopoly, on the 15th and 16th of Nov. 1826, Ens. E. G. H. H. Gibbs, of H.M.'s 48th regt. of Foot, was arraigned on the following Charge, viz.

Charge. "Ens. E. G. H. H. Gibbs, of H.M.'s 48th regt., placed in arrest by me, for sending a challenge on the evening of the 14th October, to Ens. Leech, 48th regt., to fight a duel, being in positive and direct disobedience of my orders as commanding-officer, delivered to Ens. Gibbs in presence of the Major of the regiment, on the 20th day of August, in consequence of the original quarrel having been made a subject of complaint to me by Ens. Leech, such conduct being subversive of military discipline, and in breach of the Articles of War."

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,

Lt.-Col. commg. H.M.'s 48th Regt.

Upon which charge the court came to the following decision.

"*Finding.*

Finding. "The court having maturely weighed and considered all that has been adduced in support of the prosecution, as well as what has been brought forward on the defence, is of opinion, that the charge has not been proved, and does therefore acquit the prisoner, Ens. E. G. H. H. Gibbs thereof."

Approved and confirmed,

(Signed) G. T. WALKER, Lieut.-Gen.
Ensign Gibbs is released from arrest, and will return to his duty.

The foregoing order is to be entered in the general order-book, and read at the head of every regiment in H.M.'s service in India.

By order of the Commander-in-chief,

A. MACDONALD,
Adj.-Gen. of H.M.'s Army in India.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Nov. 2. Mr. E. P. Thompson, assistant to collector and magistrate of Vizagapatam.

16. Mr. R. A. Bannerman, head-assistant to ditto of Tinnevely.

Mr. H. M. Blair, head-assistant to principal collector and magistrate of Malabar.

Mr. G. S. Hooper, register to Zillah Court of Malabar.

Mr. John Walker, register to Zillah Court of Madura.

Mr. J. C. Scott, register to Zillah Court of Canara.

23. Mr. W. D. Davis, sub-collector and assistant-magistrate in northern division of Arcot.

Mr. W. A. Neave, head-assistant to collector and magistrate of Salem.

Mr. H. Morris, head-assistant to principal collector and magistrate of northern division of Arcot.

30. Mr. G. D. Drury, sub-collector and assistant-magistrate in southern division of Arcot.

Mr. A. Crawley, ditto ditto in Salem.

Mr. H. Williams, assistant to collector and magistrate of Chingleput.

Dec. 7. R. W. Norfor, Esq., sheriff of Madras for the ensuing year.

Jan. 18. Mr. A. Maitland, assistant to principal collector and magistrate of Cuddapah.

Mr. E. B. Thomas, assistant to ditto of northern division of Arcot.

Mr. A. Wilnot, assistant to ditto of Bellary.

Mr. R. T. Porter, assistant to ditto of Coimbatore.

Mr. W. C. Ogilvie, assistant to collector and magistrate of Masulipatam.

Mr. H. C. Montgomery, assistant to principal collector and magistrate of Nellore.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Jan. 5. Rev. C. Jeaffreson to be military chaplain at Nagpoor.

Rev. F. Spring, ditto at Quilon.

Rev. F. J. Darrah, ditto at Vizagapatam.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort St. George, Sept. 29, 1826.—3d N.I. Sen. Capt. D. Agnew to be maj., Sen. Lieut. T. Dallas to be capt., and Sen. Ens. F. J. Clarke to be lieut., in suc. to Turner invalided.

Oct. 6.—2d L.C. Lieut. G. M. Floyer to be adj., v. Garstin placed under orders of resident at Hyderabad.

1st Europ. Regt. Lieut. W. J. Manning to be qu. mast. and paym., v. Brown prom.

2d N.I. Lieut. R. M. Humphreys to be adj., v. Downing resigned.

Surg. T. Owen to be a superintending surg., v. Trotter dec.

Assist. surg. T. Key permitted to place his services at disposal of resident of Hyderabad.

Oct. 10.—Capt. A. Mussita, 48th N.I., transferred to invalid estab., and posted to 2d or Arnee Nat. Vet. Bat. at Guntore.

Oct. 13.—48th N.I. Sen. Lieut. H. C. Lynch to be capt., and Sen. Ens. John Lewis to be lieut., in suc. to Mussita invalided.

Sen. Assist. surg. Jas. Hazlewood to be surg., v. Trotter dec.

Head-Quarters, Oct. 10, 1826.—*Ensigns posted.* G. Jackson to 11th N.I.; G. G. Brown to 40th do.; W. B. McCally to 41st do.; W. B. Jackson to 25th do.; J. Tainsh to 11th do.

Oct. 13.—*Removals.* Ens. A. Barker from 33d N.I. to 2d Europ. Regt.; Ens. A. E. Nisbet from 11th N.I. to 1st Europ. Regt.; Ens. E. L. Durant from 20th to 3d N.I.; Lieut. F. J. Browne from 3d to 2d bat. artil.

Fort St. George, Oct. 24.—Lieut. W. Bremner, 47th N.I., to be fort adj. at Bellary, v. Metcalfe prom.

1st L.C. Lieut. W. Walker to be adj., v. Thwaite dec.

1st Brig. Horse Artil. Lieut. A. Sheriff to act as adj., v. Hyslop returned to Europe.

Lieut. J. Shepherd, 24th N.I., to be adj. to 1st bat. pioneers, v. Wheeler prom.

Maj. H. Degraives, 8th N.I., transferred to invalid estab.

Oct. 27.—*Artillery.* Lieut. G. Middlecoat to be qu. mast., interp., and paym. to 2d bat., v. Anderson.

7th N.I. Lieut. R. A. Harden to be adj., v. Hendrie prom.

12th N.I. Lieut. J. C. Coffin to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Shedden prom.; Lieut. E. Pell to be adj., v. Coffin.

19th N.I. Lieut. G. W. Osborne to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Hitchens removed.

24th N.I. Lieut. C. Dennett to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Sinclair prom.

33d N.I. Lieut. T. R. James to be adj., v. Russell removed.

36th N.I. Lieut. J. Hayne to act as adj., v. Barton removed.

37th N.I. Lieut. D. Duff to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Wright removed.

39th N.I. Lieut. C. G. Otley to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Stafford removed.

41st N.I. Lieut. G. Logan to be adj., v. Langford removed.

42d N.I. Lieut. F. B. Griffiths to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Ely on furl. to Europe.

44th N.I. Lieut. F. Dudgeon to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Blaxland removed.

45th N.I. Lieut. J. Wyllie to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Fraser prom.

49th N.I. Lieut. J. T. Lugard to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Baddeley removed.

51st N.I. Lieut. J. A. Russell to be adj., and Lieut. M. Blaxland to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., to complete estab.; Lieut. C. Stafford to act as adj. during absence of Lieut. Russell.

52d N.I. Lieut. C. H. Baddeley to be adj., and Lieut. T. Bayles to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., to complete estab.

1st Extra N.I. Lieut. F. L. Nicolay, 29th N.I., to be adj., v. Logan; Lieut. J. Symons, 18th N.I., to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Fitzgerald.

Oct. 31.—Col. Wm. Macbean, H.M.'s 54th regt., to succeed Lieut. Col. Campbell, H.M.'s 40th regt., in command of troops in Malabar and Canara.

Lieut. A. E. Byam, of artil., to be an extra assist. to resident at Hyderabad.

Assist. surg. D. Vertue to be surg. to Residency at Hyderabad, from 15th April.

Nov. 3.—Capt. G. Hutchinson, 24th N.I., Brig. Maj. at Sholapoor, transf. as brig. maj. to Kul-ladgee.

Lieut. W. G. T. Lewis, 46th N.I., to be cantonment adj. at Sholapoor.

Nov. 7.—Lieut. W. H. Atkinson, of engineers, to be acting superintend. engineer in ceded districts.

Engineers. Sen. Capt. W. Monteath to be maj., and Sen. Lieut. E. Lake to be capt., v. Milbourn dec.

Nov. 10.—Lieut. Col. Com. T. Pollok, 22d N.I., to command Nagpore subd. force, v. Deacon permitted to return to Europe.

Lieut. Col. Com. J. D. Greenhill, 34th N.I., to command light field div. of Hyderabad subd. force at Jaulnah, v. Pollok.

Lieut. Col. Com. H. F. Smith, 42d N.I., to command Travancore subd. force, v. Greenhill.

27th N.I. Lieut. R. A. Joy to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Thorpe resigned.

10th N.I. Sen. Ens. C. Clayhills to be lieut., v. Sinclair dec.

Nov. 14.—Lieut. Col. Com. C. Farran, 14th N.I., to command at Bellary.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 13.—*Cadets (recently prom.) appointed to do duty.* Cornet G. B. B. Groube with 5th L.C.—Ensigns N. L. H. McLeod with 16th N.I.; R. H. J. Budd with 16th do.; J. S. Mackenzie and R. Bryce with 16th do.; F. Grant with 10th do.; J. Gounin with 15th do.; A. Mayhew with 10th do.; J. Jones with 16th do.; J. W. G. Kenney with 10th do.; J. B. Manley with 16th do.; J. Douglass with 16th do.; C. Gordon with 6th do.; A. E. B. Durant with 10th do.

Nov. 16.—Lieut. Col. E. W. Snow removed from 1st to 25th N.I., and Lieut. Col. J. S. Fraser from latter to former regt.

Assist. surg. Davenport removed from 25th to 14th N.I., and Assist. surg. Geddes from latter to former regt.

Lieut. H. Gould, 20th N.I., posted to 1st bat. pioneers, v. Macartney prom.

Nov. 17.—Assist. surg. E. Jessop removed from 4th Nat. Vet. Bat. to 32d N.I.

Ens. Jas. Kempthorne removed, at his own request, from 47th to 26th N.I.

Fort St. George, Nov. 14.—Assist. surg. J. Mack to have medical charge of north-western district of Madras, v. Atkinson resigned.

5th N.I. Sen. Lieut. H. S. Burgess to be capt., and Sen. Ens. C. Abbott to be lieut., v. Mitford retired.

20th N.I. Sen. Lieut. Brev. Capt. J. Macartney to be capt., and Sen. Ens. D. Strettel to be lieut., v. James dec.

33d N.I. Sen. Ens. H. Marshall to be lieut., v. Clay dec.

Mr. P. Poole admitted an assist. surg. and app. to do duty under cantonment surg. at St. Thomas's Mount.

Nov. 21.—Capt. S. W. Steel directed to assume duties of his situation in qu. mast. gen.'s departm. with Nagpore subd. force.

Lieut. A. T. Cotton, of engineers, to be civil engineer in centre division.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 25.—*Removals.* Cornet H. S. Waters from 8th to 3d L.C.; Ens. E. H. Martin from 8th to 31st N.I.; Ens. A. Wilkinson from 13th to 33d N.I.; Ens. J. Wright, from 52d to 5th N.I.

Dec. 1.—Capt. G. Conran, of B troop 1st brig. horse artill., to command artill. with light field div. of Hyderabad subd. force at Jaulnah.

Dec. 4.—Lieut. Col. G. Gillespie removed from 4th to 2d, and Lieut. Col. S. Martin from 2d to 4th L.C.

Dec. 7.—Capt. F. Blundell, 3d bat. artill., to command detachment of artillery proceeding to Prince of Wales's Island and its dependencies, and Lieut. W. S. Carew, 4th or Goulundauze bat., to be staff officer to same detachment.

Dec. 8.—*Removals of Lieut. Cols.* H. M. Kelly, from 1st Europ. regt. to 32d N.I.; G. Waugh from

50th N.I., to 1st Europ. regt.; G. Jackson from 32d to 50th N.I.

Fort St. George, Dec. 12.—3d L.C. Lieut. E. R. Gould to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Bullock prom.

1st N.I. Lieut. M. W. Perreau to be adj., v. Bissett.

Lieut. W. H. Simpson, 36th N.I., to be an extra aide-de-camp to his Exc. the Commander-in-chief.

Capt. F. F. Whinyates, of artill., to be superintend. of rocket estab. at head-quarters of artillery, v. Wynch.

Artillery. Lieut. J. Booker to be qu. mast., interp., and paym. to 4th or Goulundauze bat., v. Carew.

3d L. Inf. Lieut. W. L. Williams to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Johnstone; Lieut. F. J. Clerk to be adj., v. Harvey returned to Europe.

2d L.C. Sen. Lieut. J. N. R. Campbell to be capt., and Sen. Cornet R. T. Pocock to be lieut., v. Macqueen dec.

30th N.I. Sen. Ens. R. H. Robertson to be lieut., v. Woodgate dec.

27th N.I. Sen. Ens. G. G. MacDonell to be lieut., v. Croft invalided.

43d N.I. Sen. Lieut. G. Williams to be capt., and Sen. Ens. D. Bayley to be lieut., v. Budd dec.

Lieut. R. C. Moore's appointment to be qu. mast., interp., and paym. to 1st bat. artill. cancelled, that officer not having done regimental duty for regulated period of two years.

Lieut. W. H. Miller to act as qu. mast., interp., and paym. to 1st bat. of artillery until further orders.

Dec. 15.—Assist. surg. W. Fasken to have medical charge of zillah of Salem, v. Richmond prom.; Assist. surg. N. A. Woods to be dep. medical storekeeper at Jaulnah, v. Davidson permitted to return to Europe; Assist. surg. Maxwell to do duty under garrison surg. of Poona mallice.

Dec. 19.—Capt. T. T. Paske, of artill., to be assist. adj. gen. of artillery, v. Bommer.

Capt. A. Crawford, of artill., to be commissary of stores with force in Doodah, v. Paske.

Lieut. H. S. Ford, of artill., to be dep. commissary of stores at Jaulnah, v. Chisholm permitted to return to Europe.

Artillery. Lieut. T. Dittmas to be qu. mast., interp., and paym. to 3d bat., v. Ford.

1st Europ. Regt. Lieut. F. H. Hopper to be adj., v. Doveton permitted to return to Europe.

3d L.I. Sen. Lieut. P. J. Harvey to be capt., and Sen. Ens. G. T. Pinchard to be lieut., v. Dalbas discharged.

2d Lieuts. of Engineers to be 1st Lieuts. W. H. Atkinson, T. T. Pears, A. De Butts, and E. Buckle.

Dec. 22.—Lieut. J. V. Hughes, 39th N.I., to be fort adj. at Seringapatam, v. Macqueen.

Head-Quarters, Dec. 18.—Ens. Jas. Cannan removed from 14th to 15th N.I.

Dec. 19.—*Removals of Surgeons.*—W. Horsman from 9th to 50th N.I. S. M. Stephenson from 25th N.I. to 1st L.C. W. E. E. Conwell from 1st L.C. to 25th N.I. C. Desormaux from 50th to 9th N.I. J. Hazlewood (late prom.) posted to 14th N.I.

Removals of Assist. Surgeons. S. Higginson from 9th to 24th N.I. W. Mortimer from 42d to 4th do. R. Sutherland from 24th to 19th do. R. Oliphant from 10th N.I. to 2d bat. pioneers. J. P. Grant from 22d to 32d N.I. D. Richardson from 50th to 36th do. J. Bell from 43d to 42d do. G. V. Cumming from 32d to 2d do. W. G. Owen from 24th to 22d do. J. T. Maule posted to 1st do.

Lieut. W. T. Croft, recently transf. to inv. estab., posted to Carnatic Europ. Vet. Bat.

Lieut. W. Macqueen, 50th N.I., appointed to 2d bat. pioneers, v. Milnes.

Fort St. George, Dec. 26.—19th N.I. Sen. Lieut. (Brev. Capt.) J. T. Webb to be capt., and Sen. Ens. E. H. Atkinson to be lieut., v. Bluny discharged.

Lieut. J. Briggs, 13th N.I., directed to assume his

his situation of dep. assist. qu. mast. gen. in My.

Dec. 29.—41st N.I. Sen. Ens. G. H. Harrison to be Lieut., v. Dale dec.

Head-Quarters, Jan. 1, 1827.—Removals. Ens. E. G. Tayton from 50th to 8th N.I. Lieut. W. T. Croft from Carnatic Europ. Vet. Bat. to 4th Nat. Vet. Bat. Capt. D. Walker from 4th to 2d Nat. Vet. Bat.

Fort St. George, Jan. 2.—43d N.I. Lieut. W. B. Cox to be adj., v. Manning; Lieut. E. C. Manning to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Cox.

Jan. 9.—Lieut. J. Blackall, H.M.'s 48th regt., to be fort adj. at Poonamallee, and to have charge of pensioners at Tripasore, v. Lieut. Campbell resigned.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Sept. 20. Capt. W. S. Helle, of artil., for health.—Oct. 3. Maj. C. A. Elderton, 9th N.I.—Lieut. J. H. Macbride, 9th N.I., for health.—6. Capt. J. Wilson, 30th N.I.—10. Lieut. A. Hyslop, of artil., for health.—Lieut. J. G. Deck, 15th N.I., for health.—31. Capt. T. Youngson, 40th N.I., for health.—Nov. 3. Capt. G. Fryer, 10th N.I., for health.—7. Capt. J. Chisholm, of artil., for health (via Bombay).—10. Capt. C. Poulton, 5th N.I., ditto ditto.—17. Lieut. P. L. Harvey, 3d N.I., for health.—21. Capt. T. Rudiman, 31st N.I.—24. Capt. T. M. Claridge, 43d N.I.—Dec. 13. Lieut. R. H. Richardson, 7th L.C., for health (via Bombay).—Assist. surg. R. Davidson, ditto ditto.—15. Lieut. O. Bell, 12th N.I., for health.—19. Lieut. F. B. Doveton, 1st Europ. Regt., for health.—Lieut. T. F. Baber, 44th N.I., for health.—29. Lieut. J. Pasmore, pension estab., for health.—Lieut. T. Stockwell, 20th N.I., for health.—Jan. 9. Capt. N. Hunter, of artil., for health.—12. Lieut. Col. J. Briggs, 42d N.I., for health.—Lieut. C. Boldero, 24th N.I., for health.

To Buxhire.—Dec. 19. Capt. P. Thomson, 39th N.I., for six months.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Dec. 19. Capt. J. Bayley, 22d N.I., for twelve months, for health (eventually to Europe).

To Sea.—Oct. 6. Lieut. J. Macvitie, 9th N.I., for six months, for health.—10. Capt. W. C. Brunton, 2d L.C., ditto ditto.—Jan. 9. Lieut. A. E. G. Turnour, 21st N.I., for four months, for health.

Cancelled.—Nov. 3. Lieut. H. Gould, 30th N.I., to Europe.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, January 24.

The Quarter Sessions commenced this day, when Sir Robert Comyn delivered a charge to the grand jury, in the course of which he referred to the new jury act in the following terms:—

“It is first to be observed, that the former statute here recited, (*viz.* the 13 Geo. III, C. 63) limited, by the 34th Section, the selection of jurors to a class of persons whom it calls ‘British subjects,’ a term certainly not very accurate; but which appears to have been intended to designate those who having been born within the realms of Great Britain had come to settle in India, and their legitimate issue; such, at least, has been the practical interpretation in restricting the *personal* jurisdiction of the Supreme Courts in India. But it must not be inferred from this that no other persons are the subjects of Great Britain; for whilst under the several successive statutes from time to time passed

for that purpose, the Company have been permitted to enjoy their territorial acquisitions, the sovereignty and ultimate dominion has all along remained vested in the crown; and consequently all persons, of what colour or description soever, born within such territory, are the King's subjects, just as much as if they were natives of the island of Great Britain. By the present Act, then, all distinctions as to parentage are abolished, and all the King's subjects, native as well as European, resident within the presidencies, may be qualified; and those persons are alone excluded who, having been born elsewhere than in the Company's territory, owe allegiance to some foreign prince or state. It is, however, made an indispensable requisite for serving on the *grand* jury, that the party should profess the Christian religion; and in like manner Christians only are competent to sit upon the *petit* jury for the trial of Christian offenders.

“These are the restrictions by which the statute has circumscribed its own operation. But it has further vested a power in the judges of the several courts to make such rules for the qualification and service of jurors as they shall think fit; but which shall conform to the main object of the Act, and be moreover subject to the approbation of the crown. For this court, I can only say, that we shall, without delay, prepare these rules. What they may be, is at present impossible to define: one, however, I trust and believe, will not be omitted; I mean a rule by which no person shall be permitted to act as a jurymen who is not sufficiently acquainted with the English language fully to understand the judge's charge. The experience of all ages shews us, that there is always a strong connexion between the manners and the languages of nations; and I may be allowed to question the capacity of the Oriental tongues to give an adequate representation of our Western institutions. But when I call to mind the extreme nicety and subtlety of the English law; the very fine and minute shades by which the guilt of an offence may be heightened or extenuated; above all, when I remember that we have been compelled to invent, and engraft on our own copious language, terms of art for the expression of our technical distinctions, I must confess, that I, for one, should feel the greatest pain and repugnance at being compelled to commit any observation of mine, in a criminal charge, to the hazardous experiment of translation.

“The abolition, then, of the distinctions of descent and parentage, as amongst the King's subjects, is the main alteration introduced by this new statute; in passing which, it seems to have been the intention of the legislature to bring the natives of our territories in India more nearly upon a level with their fellow subjects by re-

posing in them a duty of great trust and confidence. As to its *necessity* in this presidency, it is but due to those gentlemen whom we have been accustomed to see discharging the office of jurors, to say (and I am sure that I am speaking the sentiments of the whole court), that we have hitherto had every reason to be satisfied with the discretion and discrimination with which we have been assisted in the exercise of our criminal jurisdiction."

MISCELLANEOUS.

NATIVE JURORS.

A meeting of the principal Hindoo inhabitants, and heads of the different castes at Madras, was convened by the Sheriff, agreeably to requisition, on the 25th November, in Black Town, to take into consideration the act for regulating the appointment of juries in India. On the day named upwards of 1,000 of the most respectable Hindoo inhabitants assembled. The Sheriff (Mr. E. Gordon) opened the meeting; after which the assembly requested Vennelacumty Soob Row, Braimin, to preside, who accordingly took the chair, and interpreted the act of Parliament in the Tamil and Telugoo languages, and requested the assembly to state their individual opinion respecting it.

Chinnatomby Moodeliar then stated or read his opinion to the following effect:—

"The object of this meeting is to collect the opinion of the Hindoos of this town, on the subject of a law lately passed in England, whereby we are declared eligible to act as jurors like Englishmen, provided the judges of the Supreme Court should think fit, in cases of a criminal nature, when persons of our own religion are to be tried. Since this law became known at Madras, it has been the subject of much discussion and consideration, and some European gentlemen have kindly explained to several among us, that the privilege which has thus been conferred on us, is very valuable and ought to be received with gratitude; and some of the native inhabitants, who are acquainted with the English language and European customs, have at times spoken of this measure as one that is likely to be beneficial to the Hindoo community.

Others have considered that, in our present condition, we are not sufficiently educated, or advanced in knowledge, to understand the nature of the duty, which, as jurors, we shall have to perform; and it must be admitted, that nine-tenths of our number are totally ignorant of the English language, and have never been in the Supreme Court during a criminal trial; scarcely any of us are in the least acquainted with the rules of English law; and perhaps there is not a single individual who understands the distinctions that

are said to exist in respect to offences against the law of England, of which, if we act as jurors, we shall be required to convict or acquit our countrymen. At a criminal trial we may understand the evidence given by witnesses in our own languages, and we may happen to know the character and condition in life of these witnesses, whereby we may form a correct judgment whether they are speaking truly or otherwise; but without a proper understanding of the nature of the offence, and the law that may apply to it, it will be a difficult task to pronounce a verdict, however we may understand the facts of the case. Should the trial be for an offence which may subject the prisoner to the penalty of death, there are very few among us who would consider themselves fit to form an opinion on a matter of so much importance. To the members of the Braminical Caste other considerations will suggest themselves, to which no allusions may be made. Many of us have heard, that at criminal trials the assistance of counsel has been useful in explaining the facts of the case, in prosecuting with effect the guilty, and in defending the innocent. Now, should we act as jurors, we shall lose whatever benefit can arise from the aid of counsel, either to the prosecution or the defence, for we shall not be able to understand what may be addressed to us; and the same effect can never be produced by an interpreter, however skilful and able he may be. This observation will apply in a much stronger degree to the charge of the judge, which must be interpreted and particularly explained, to enable the most intelligent amongst us to understand the law of the case, or the reasoning of the judge on the evidence, and the application of it.

"Yet all these difficulties ought to be overcome before any honest man can venture to pronounce a verdict which may deprive a fellow-creature of his life, or occasion some other punishment. If we are to act as jurors at the Court-House, we must also perform the duty of attending the inquests of the coroner; and let any one present reflect on the situation in which he will be placed, if liable to be summoned and to be kept for hours near to a dead body, and that body deposited in a place which Bramins and respectable Hindoos ought not to approach.

"On the present occasion, I do not wish to advert particularly to the differences and distinctions which exist between our castes; but in the trial of offences which may have been occasioned by quarrels of castes, involving the common feeling of great numbers of men, it will be very difficult to find an impartial jury to determine on the guilt or innocence of the party charged. The consequences of an acquittal or a conviction are likely to be much more prejudicial to the conflicting parties,

parties, than if the party offending should be tried as heretofore.

"It is said that a similar measure has been tried at Ceylon, and that its effects have been very beneficial. On this subject there are different opinions; but the people of Ceylon, who serve as jurors, differ essentially from ourselves, and perhaps are better fitted for the benefit which it is said has been conferred on them. There the judges perform circuits at a distance from the seat of government; and unless they were enabled to find men to perform the duty of jurors, it would be necessary either to take Europeans with the judges, or to abandon that mode of trial. At Madras the judges constantly administer justice in one court.

"A time may arrive hereafter, when the Hindoo population of this place may overcome the difficulties which have been noticed; but it is for those amongst us who are most competent to the task, to consider and declare, whether in our present condition we are fitted for the duty we may be required to perform; and if not, whether we ought not to represent submissively, but earnestly, to the judges of the Supreme Court, that we are at present desirous of being excluded from the privilege extended by the late Act of Parliament to the natives of this presidency.

"There are many points of a minor nature, which must occur to any one who may have witnessed or heard of the criminal proceedings in the Supreme Court, but which illustrate the inconvenience that would result from our attending as jurors. Whatever may be the day, or however indispensable we may think it to perform particular ceremonies, either for family purposes or in the celebration of festivals, we must attend punctually or be subject to fines. We cannot, during a trial, take any refreshment: that by our customs is not permitted. We must continue together until our opinion is found; and it is possible, that with every regard to our religion and our prejudices, men may be brought together who have never before sat on the same form or carpet, and whose sitting together would constitute a mental degradation to the one or to the other, and perhaps the feeling might be mutual. Thus circumstanced, any unanimity of opinion would be difficult of attainment.

"Although in certain cases about 30 years ago, half the jury were Hindoos, the other half were Europeans, and the court of that time was not conducted by any regular forms or proceedings; the judges were not lawyers, and the course was better within the comprehension of the natives, who were usually selected to fill the office. What then happened to terminate the summoning of natives to serve on the jury, is within the recollection of a few only. It is for our present consideration

whether we are yet competent to understand and to perform the duty.

"Should this assembly be of opinion that the period has not yet arrived when we can venture to exercise the privilege which the British parliament seems to have offered us, let us form a committee to prepare a respectful and becoming representation to the judges of the Supreme Court, to whom the framing of the rule is delegated, expressing our thanks for the benefit intended to be conferred, and explaining our reasons for wishing to decline it. It may also be proper to convey a similar representation to the government by which we are protected."

The sentiments stated by Chinnatomby Moodeliar, and his proposal, were declared by the chairman to be in conformity with his own; and for himself, and on behalf of the Brannin caste, he recommended that they should be adopted by the meeting. Poompavey Anasawmy Moodeliar supported the proposal, for himself and on behalf of the other Nattawars, with the exception of a few persons, in number about 20, who desired to be furnished with an extract of the proceedings of the late Mayor's Court, exhibiting the names of the Hindoo inhabitants who formerly acted as jurors in that court, for the purpose of giving their opinion within a month. This latter suggestion was seconded by Connore Mootiah Moodeliar.

The opinion and proposal of Chinnatomby Moodeliar, seconded or recommended by the chairman, was also supported by Namasevoy Chettyar, for himself and on behalf of the caste, and by Collah Ragavah Chettyar, for himself and on behalf of his caste.

Vencatasawmy Chetty, on behalf of the Dassayees, asked the chairman's permission to retire into a room for the purpose of forming an opinion. This was seconded by Mootosawmy Naick, but objected to by Poompavey Anasawmy Moodeliar, on the ground that it would take up time unnecessarily, which objection was supported by Nineappah Moodeliar.

The sheriff suggested that those people who wished to retire into a room should stand up, as also those who made the objection to it, in order to point out the majority and minority. Eight members of the Dassayees then stood up, as wishing to retire, but twenty having objected to it, the original proposal was negatived.

It was then unanimously agreed by the members of all the castes, that respectable persons of each caste should be appointed to form a committee, for the purpose of taking into consideration the best mode of framing and preparing a respectful memorial to the Honourable the Judges of the Supreme Court, and another to the Honourable the Governor in Council, expressing the thanks of the Hindoo inhabitants

habitants of Madras for the benefit intended to be conferred by the Act of Parliament, and explaining the reasons for wishing to decline it.—*Madras Gov. Gaz. Nov. 30.*

From several communications which have appeared respecting this meeting, there seems some ground for apprehending that the genuine sentiments of the majority of the natives of Madras were not expressed on this subject. It is asserted that the wealthy and influential natives are apprehensive that the duty of jurors would interfere with their indolent enjoyments, and would be attended with a loss of consequence to them, by reason of inferior natives acquiring this privilege in common with themselves. It is also alleged that several of the natives who attended the meeting suppressed their sentiments, which were repugnant to those expressed, because they supposed the course of proceeding had been adopted at the suggestion of *some person in authority*. From a letter on this subject in the *Madras Courier*, which purports to be written by a Hindoo, we extract the following passage :

"I attended the meeting held on the 25th ult., but I beg to assure you that the meeting was not solicited by the principals and heads of the Hindoo Castes ; neither by any Hindoo respectable nor experienced ; but by fourteen who are pretty respectable Hindoos of Madras, who thus took upon them to act for the whole native community. The proceedings of the meeting are already before the public ; but so far from containing the sentiments of the generality of the respectable natives, they contain the very reverse. I am connected with the greater part of the respectable natives at the Presidency, and I beg to assure you that they are greatly distressed at what has taken place, and much lament it, as the account of the meeting must tend to lower their character very much in the eyes of all liberal or enlightened persons. Their refusing the gracious boon held out to them by their rulers, of serving as jurymen, was never their wish nor desire ; it is looked upon as a high honour and a great privilege ; and their sincere wish is that the proceedings of the meeting of the 25th ult. may be rescinded, and this foul stain obliterated from their characters ; and that the views of our rulers at home may meet with that gratitude they deserve, we shall "all be proud" to be admitted to so honourable a distinction.

"The person who took the lead at the meeting had no authority for the steps he adopted ; but by his *much fair speech*, misguided the worthy Sheriff into his ways, and by his intrigues, put all the other Hindoos into confusion. It is very painful to us to find one of our number, who has risen to some eminence, making

use of his knowledge to asperse and injure his countrymen. I again beg to state, at least more than seven-eighths of the respectable natives of Madras are desirous of having the honour of serving as jurymen, and are most grateful to the honourable gentlemen who have in Parliament taken notice of them—they feel sadly grieved at what has taken place, but hope it may yet be obliterated.

"I would just say, that were Government to issue a notice that there was required a body of natives to serve as Petty Jurymen, to whom a *handsome monthly salary would be given*, on their being found fit for that duty, I conceive some *hundreds* would come forward fully qualified for it, conversant not only with the English language, but with Tamul, Teloo-goo, Mahratta, &c. all desirous of serving on this duty ; and, likewise, amongst the foremost would be found the fourteen persons who signed the requisition for the meeting."

EARTHQUAKE.

We have received the following from a correspondent, dated Vizagapatam, 7th January 1827.—"A shock of an earthquake occurred at this station yesterday afternoon, at about half-past five o'clock. It was apparently from seaward, and in the direction from east towards the hills westward, the immediate boundary of this narrow neck of land, which is nearly peninsular. The shock was of but a few seconds duration ; but the undulation of the earth was very perceptible, particularly in the houses at the eastern extremity of Waltair, and in those nearest the sea. The noise was similar to what would be occasioned by the passing of a waggon over a rough stone pavement. The doors of the houses shook, and all the venetians rattled in an extraordinary manner. Some persons state that they felt the *tremblement de terre* so sensibly, that it occasioned a slight sensation of sickness at the stomach."—*Mad. Gov. Gaz. Jan. 18.*

VEPERY SCHOOLS.

The annual public examination of the English and Tamil schools at the Vepery Mission of the Venerable Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and the Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, was held in the New Mission Church at Vepery, on Saturday last, in presence of a highly respectable assemblage of ladies and gentlemen of the Presidency. Amongst the visitors were the hon. Sir Ralph Palmer, Chief Justice, Sir G. W. Ricketts, Sir Ralph Rice, and the clergy and other members of the society's committees. The number of children belonging to these schools is 360, and their neat appearance and attentive

attentive and orderly demeanour, excited just approbation. The Tamil examination was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Rottler, senior Missionary at Vepery; that in English by the Rev. W. Roy, senior Chaplain at the Presidency, and Secretary to the Madras District Committee of the Incorporated Society. These schools are conducted upon the admirable system adopted in England by the National Society for schools; and on this occasion we had an opportunity of observing the large measure of success with which it has been pursued, in the benevolent establishment at Vepery. The children gave specimens of their attainments in reading and cyphering, and displayed a very pleasing degree of intelligence and proficiency. The result was not less creditable to those under whose charge these young persons have been placed, than gratifying to all who witnessed this interesting scene.—*Ibid*, Dec. 28.

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Dec. 3. *Mermaid*, Yates, from Calcutta.—13. *Hope*, Flint, from Calcutta.—15. *Claudine*, Chrystie, from Calcutta.—20. *Melpomene*, Johnston, from Calcutta.—21. *Maira*, Hornblow, from Calcutta.—Jan. 4. *Providence*, Ardlie, from Calcutta.—4. *Morley*, Halliday, from Calcutta.—9. *Cumbrian*, Blyth, from London.—11. *Aurora*, Earl, from Calcutta, and *Coldstream*, Stephens, from London.—16. *Malcolm*, Eyles, from Calcutta.—18. *Abertoun*, Percival, from Calcutta.—21. *Lady Raffles*, Coxwell, from Calcutta.

Departures.

Nov. 14. *Lalla Rookh*, Stewart, for Penang and Singapore.—17. *Atlas*, Hunt, for Calcutta.—28. *Cambridge*, Barber, for Penang and Calcutta.—Dec. 9. *Castle Forbes*, Ord, for Calcutta, and *Mermaid*, Yates, for London.—12. *James Sibbald*, Forbes, for Penang, &c.—23. *Hope*, Flint, for London.—31. *Melpomene*, Johnston, for London.—Jan. 8. *Maira*, Hornblow, for Cape and London.—14. *Morley*, Halliday, for Ceylon and London.—16. *Cumbrian*, Blyth, for Calcutta.—25. *Coldstream*, Stephens, for Penang and Calcutta.—26. *Ganges*, Mitford, for London.—27. *Malcolm*, Eyles, and *Claudine*, Chrystie, both for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Oct. 29. At Chanda, near Nagpore, the lady of Assist. surg. A. Montgomery, Bombay Medical Establishment, of a daughter.

Nov. 5. At Tranquebar, the lady of Lieut. W. P. Burton, 27th N.I., of a daughter.

— At Rayapoornam, Mrs. T. Jones, of a daughter.

— At Chindatrepatta, Mrs. M. Scriven, of a daughter.

6. At Secunderabad, the lady of Lieut. Kirby, 4th N.I., of a daughter.

7. At Trichinopoly, the wife of Mr. J. Bigwood, of a daughter.

9. The lady of C. H. Clay, Esq., of a daughter.

10. The lady of Capt. D. Montgomerie, deputy surveyor general, of a daughter.

— At Cannanore, the lady of Lieut. Col. Campbell, H.M.'s 46th regt., of a son.

— At Quilon, the lady of W. Huxham, Esq., of a daughter.

14. At the Presidency Cantonment, the lady of Lieut. W. G. Brooschoff, of a son.

15. At Bellary, the lady of A. Cheape, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.

16. Mrs. P. Engel, of a daughter.

17. The lady of Lieut. C. Chauvel, 35th N.I., of a son.

21. Mrs. Le Cerf, of a son.

22. At Bangalore, the lady of Maj. T. S. Watson, of artillery, of a daughter.

25. At Cocanada, the lady of G. A. Smith, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.

— At Parsewaukum, the lady of Lieut. Stoddard, H.M.'s 54th regt., of a daughter.

28. At Secunderabad, the lady of Lieut. Col. Martin, commanding 2d L.C., of a daughter.

30. At Trichinopoly, the lady of Lieut. Evans, fort adj., at that station, of a son.

Dec. 1. At Arcot, the lady of Capt. Lang, H.M.'s 13th Light Dr., of a son.

— At Palamcottah, the lady of John Walker, Esq., of a son.

4. At Ellichpore, the lady of Capt. Hugh Robison, of a son.

5. At Arcot, the lady of Capt. H. B. Williams, 3d Light Cav., of a daughter.

8. At Palamcottah, the wife of the Rev. B. Schmid, of a daughter.

9. At Kamptee, the lady of Lieut. J. S. Impey, postmaster to Nagpore Subsid. Force, of a son still-born.

10. At Bangalore, Mrs. J. F. Pereira, of a son.

12. At Trichinopoly, the lady of Lieut. Archer, 20th regt., of a daughter.

— At the Presidency cantonment, the lady of Capt. Dods, cantonment adj., of a son.

— At Calingapatam, the lady of P. S. Derks, Esq., master-attendant, of a son, still-born.

15. The wife of Mr. John Law, architect, of a son.

23. At Cannanore, the lady of Capt. Locke, attached to the S. L. B., of a daughter.

26. At St. Thomas's Mount, the lady of Lieut. Foord, artillery, of a son.

30. At Pondicherry, the lady of Capt. J. Matthews, 37th regt. N.I., of a son.

31. At Tanjore, the lady of Capt. Fyfe, of a daughter.

— The lady of G. J. Hadow, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.

Jan. 1. At Arcot, the lady of J. C. Schroeder, Esq., H.M.'s 13th Light Drags., of a son.

— At Cuddalore, the lady of S. Crawford, Esq., civil service, of a son.

3. In Fort St. George, the lady of Lieut. O'Connell, commissary of ordnance, of a son.

— At Guntoor, the lady of Capt. B. Baker, 2d N. V. Bat., of a daughter.

4. At Berhampore, the lady of Dr. Pearce, 37th N.I., of a son.

12. The lady of Lieut. Gen. Sir George Walker, commander-in-chief, of a son.

— The lady of the late Capt. Gamage, Madras artillery, of a son.

— At Dindigul, the lady of Lieut. Col. C. Mandeville, of a daughter.

15. At Arcot, the lady of E. A. Langley, Esq., 3d Light Cav., of a son.

— Mrs. H. Franck, of a son.

19. At Quilon, the lady of Lieut. Col. G. M. Stuart, commanding 7th N.I., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 15. At St. Thomas's Mount, Mr. F. Dawes, of the horse brigade, to Miss M. Mason.

— At St. George's Church, Mr. R. Hamilton, of the commissariat department, to Miss E. Jackson.

Dec. 4. Capt. E. S. Dickson, 38th N.I., to Miss J. M. Fenoulhet.

12. At St. George's Church, Mr. J. A. Regel, eldest son of the late P. C. Regel, Esq., chief of Sadras, to Martha, second daughter of the late Mr. W. Jackson, deputy commissary of stores.

13. At St. George's Church, Mr. T. G. F. Consitt, son of Lieut. Consitt, royal navy, to Miss M. Anderson.

26. At St. George's Church, Salome, second daughter of the late Rev. C. Pohle, to Lieut. E. Willis, of the 28th N.I.

29. At Tranquebar, Lieut. Thase, of the royal Danish service, to Miss Sophie Wodschow.

30. Mr. W. Scaife to Miss A. Cox.

Jan. 4. At Bangalore, M. D. Cockburn, Esq., collector and magistrate of Salem, to Miss Lascelles.

6. Mr. J. Stephens to Miss A. E. Walters.

22. At St. George's Church, Capt. Coyle, 28th N.I.,

N.I., to Jane, daughter of Wm. Thomson, Esq., M.D., Wexford, Ireland.

DEATHS.

Oct. 14. At Nundy Cantonment, Anhnars', Lieut. John Woodgate, 36th N.I., executive engineer to corps serving in Martaban district, and assistant in quarter-master-general's department.

Nov. 3. Major R. E. Milbourne, of the corps of engineers.

— Elizabeth, wife of Mr. J. S. Harvey, of the quarter master general's department.

5. At Quilon, the lady of Lieut. Col. Woodhouse, commanding 20th N.I.

7. At Secunderabad, assist. surg. R. Lindsell, 19th N.I.

8. At Royapooram, Mrs. C. Meppen, aged 36.

10. Lieut. H. P. Clay, 33d N.I., son of the late General Clay, H.M.'s service, aged 22.

— At Mergul, Lieut. S. B. Goodrich, 1st M.N.I. 15. At Bangalore, the Baroness De Kutzleben, aged 42.

16. At Secunderabad, Caroline, wife of Mr. W. M'Koy, aged 33.

20. At Wallajahbad, Capt. G. H. Budd, 43d regt. aged 44.

— At Keltah, Mrs. Harding, wife of Mr. G. Harding, riding-master 3d Lt. Cav., aged 37.

24. Lieut. and Adj. G. A. Brodie, 3d Lt. Cav.

27. At Ahnorah, Susan, wife of Maj. M. Thomas, 54th N.I.

30. Wilhelmina Sophia, wife of A. J. Drummond, Esq., civilservice.

— At Mysore, T. Vadanarrain Moodilliar, son and heir of T. Ramasawny Moodilliar, after a short illness.

— At Royapooram, Mr. F. B. Garty, aged 51.

Dec. 7. At St. Thomas's Mount, Capt. D. Macqueen, 2d Lt. Cav., aged 34.

— At Secunderabad, assist. surg. R. Lindsell, 19th N.I.

14. In camp at Ongole, Lieut. H. H. Lewis, H.M.'s 30th regt.

— Mr. John Sample, aged 73.

20. Mr. John Prins, aged 35.

21. At Palamcottah, Pollengee Jevangee, parsee, in his 53th year.

25. At Ropapettah, Lazaro Laurence, son of Mr. F. D'Monte, aged 14 years.

29. At Cuddalore, Daniel, son of Mr. Manuel De Vaz.

— Mr. A. Regolay, harness-maker.

31. Mr. Wm. Lambert.

Jan. 1. At Vepery, Ann, eldest child of Mr. J. H. Williamson, aged three years.

21. Mrs. A. M'Donald, keeper of the King's Arms Tavern, in her 48th year.

Bombay.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Bombay Castle, Nov. 30, 1826.—Capt. R. Meldrum to be paym. to Gulowar Subsid. Force, v. Dunsterville prom. to a majority.

Capt. J. Rankin to be dep. paym. to Poona div. of army, v. Meldrum.

Dec. 4.—*New Corps of Sappers and Miners.* Lieut. S. Slight to command; Lieut. A. C. Peat to be adjutant.

Dec. 7.—15th N.I. Ens. J. Montgomery to be lieut., v. Cheshyre dec.; date 22d Nov. 1826.

Dec. 8.—Capt. D. Forbes, 2d or Gr. N.I., to command detachment at Rajpepla.

11th N.I. Lieut. N. Campbell to be capt., and Ens. H. C. Cole to be lieut., in suc. to Blackall dec.; date 27th Nov. 1826.

Capt. P. D. Ottey, 11th N.I., to be a brigade maj. to forces, v. Rankin.

Capt. W. Spratt, 4th N.I., to command 2d ex-N.I., v. Ottey.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Dec. 7. Capt. T. Marshall, 25th N.I., for health.—8. Maj. W. G. White, horse

artil., on private affairs.—Capt. P. W. Pedlar, 25th N.I., ditto.—Superintend. Surg. G. Ogilvy, ditto.—Capt. J. B. Sealy, 25th N.I., for health.—Lieut. T. T. Baber, 44th Madras N.I., for health.

To Sea.—Dec. 7. Lieut W. Wroughton, 3d N.I., for six months, for health.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Dec. 9. Maj. W. Mealy, Inv. Bat., for health (eventually to Europe).

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, October 14.

At the opening of the third sessions this day, Mr. Just. Chambers, in the absence of Mr. Just. Rice (whose province it would otherwise have been), delivered a charge, wherein he referred to certain matters which engaged the attention of the court, and which our readers will easily call to mind, from the repeated allusions which have been made to them in this journal.* The learned judge commenced with observing, that he was not sorry that the absence of Mr. Justice Rice had imposed upon him this duty, as he was anxious to deliver his sentiments on points which the occurrences of the last sessions rendered it important for him to discuss; that, as his reflections extended to some length, he had embodied them in a written note, which he would read to the grand jury.† The note occupied in the reading, probably an hour and a half: it gave an interesting account of the origin and history of the jury-institution, the functions of jurors, and the mode in which they discharged them; it treated of the private or personal knowledge of jurors on matters brought before them, and the weight which should be given to it in producing the verdict; of the field occupied respectively by the court and the jury, and the extent to which the latter should be ruled by the opinion of the former; a certain space of debateable ground it stated to exist, but the charge did not attempt strictly to define its limits. Arbitrary judges and licentious juries had both, it stated, been known; for the excesses of the former, the jury, by not following the direction of the bench, had an effectual remedy. The charge concluded with a just eulogy on the jury-institution, as being the best practical institution that was ever invented.

The grand jury subsequently requested to be favoured with a copy of the charge; the learned judge declined acceding to this request, as he did not wish to sanction the precedent; the charge, however, was he said, in the press, and he would take care that every individual jurymen, who wished it, should receive a copy.

At the close of the session, the grand jury made its presentment, wherein occurs the following passage:—

“On the subject of the charge delivered by

* See pp. 302, and 491.

† This jury consisted (with a single exception) of different persons from those who composed the grand jury in July.

by Mr. Justice Chambers, the grand jury, from hearing it only once, and most of them entertaining an impression, that they could afterwards have the means of consulting it more particularly, feel themselves unable to make any detailed observations, but they beg leave to remark, that the impression on their minds is, that the general exposition of the principles which should regulate the conduct of grand jurymen, as contained in the charge of the learned judge, is in unison with the ideas on that subject entertained by the grand jury, and that it is the grand jury's conviction, that the grand juries of Bombay, so far as their experience reaches, have always acted in conformity with those principles, and will always continue to do so."

(Signed) C. NORRIS, Foreman.

Grand Jury Room,

Bombay, Oct. 18, 1826.

Mr. Justice Chambers then said that, if that presentment had not been so moderate, he certainly would not have received it. As it was he had a few remarks to make upon it. Sitting as he did in that situation, it was his duty zealously to guard the rights of the bench, and he would take special care to preserve his own independence. The charge was simply on a point of law, which as a judge, it was his duty to lay down: he had particularly mentioned, that grand juries were free from any penal consequences, and the bench was equally so, as there was no power that could take cognizance of a judge overstepping the line of his duty but the crown. He would not suffer any grand jury, however respectable it might be, to comment on his charge when confined to points of law.

The learned judge has since abandoned his intention of publishing his charge, having intimated to the members of the late grand jury a wish to be relieved from his promise on that subject, in which they have accordingly acquiesced.*

November 28.

Amerchund Beederchund v. The Hon. Company and others.—This was a suit to recover property to a considerable amount, which had been seized by Capt. Robertson, in the year 1818, as prize. The principal points in the question were, 1st. whether the property belonged to the plaintiff, or rather to Naroba Outa, his testator; and 2d. whether the seizure took place at such a time, during the Mahratta war, or before the peace, as to make the subject a question for a prize court.

* It is proper for us to state, that the report of this proceeding (of which we give the substance above) is from the *Bengal Hurkaru*, which, in its remarks (wherein the right of the learned judge to debar the jury from observations in this matter is disputed) confesses that, if these discussions "are thought unfit for publication there, Bombay has not gained much by the non-registration of the press regulations."

The proceedings lasted for many days, and the question was now decided in favour of the plaintiff: damages 12,21,790 rupees, with compound interest at 6 per cent. on 10,39,603 rupees, from 18th July 1818; and on 1,82,187 rupees, from 12th November 1818.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ENTERTAINMENT TO GOVERNOR ELPHINSTONE AT POONAH.

On Mr. Elphinstone's return to Poonah from the southward, a splendid entertainment was given to him by the society of the Deccan. For this purpose a temporary building was erected in the late Commissioner's compound. The tables were laid for 200 people.

On Mr. Elphinstone's arrival, he was received by the President, Vice President, and Stewards for the evening, and at half-past seven the company sat down to dinner, Major-Gen. Sir Lionel Smith, K.C.B. in the chair.

After removal of the cloth, and the usual toasts, the President rose and addressed the company in the following terms:—

Gentlemen,—The next toast I have to propose you will have been all anticipating with sincere pleasure, "the health of the Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone."—(*Great applause.*)—Seven years ago I was called to this chair to convey the grateful estimation of the society of that day towards Mr. Elphinstone, when he was about to resign the office of Commissioner, and to assume that of the government of Bombay. On that occasion, the delicacy due to a mind like his, necessarily limited every allusion to his public situation; and on the present occasion, while he is still in high authority, I must observe the same rule with still stricter caution. It would not become us to go into any review of his official administration, nor does he stand in need of the applause which would be its certain result. If, therefore, I have faithfully interpreted your design, I shall leave nothing even for ungenerous suspicion to infer, that we have brought Mr. Elphinstone here for purposes of adulation. He comes amongst us this evening as *our guest, a common friend, beloved by all*, composed as we are of various services, but united in one and the same spirit in offering our homage to his personal character.

Gentlemen, you are all probably aware, that Mr. Elphinstone's present visit to the Deccan has been to consolidate the general tranquillity by his interviews with the native chieftains; yet, as in former times, his public labours have not prevented those habitual attentions to society, which have constantly brought us all together in happy intercourse, giving relief to our toils and variety to our pleasures. In a few words, he has been labouring as usual for our happiness, as he has ever done for the public

lic weal. He has given a useful lesson to all of you, gentlemen, who may rise to high stations in public life, by shewing that universal kindness, so far from being incompatible with dignified office, is sure to command universal good-will; and in his own case it will yield him the rare felicity of relinquishing power without the loss of a single friend! (*Shouts of applause.*) Gentlemen, my first duty and my first desire in this chair, is to assure Mr. Elphinstone of our grateful regards. If I am unable to express your sentiments in terms proportioned to your feelings, the attempt comes at least with the purest earnestness and truth. I have been associated with him in the public service for upwards of twelve years, during which I have been constantly honoured with his friendship, and there is not one among you who can feel more than myself, the apprehension that this may be the last time we shall enjoy the happiness of his society in this interesting quarter of his fame. When I say this, I do not mean to assume Mr. Elphinstone has any local partialities; for we are all aware, if he could go to Guzerat or any distant part of his government to-morrow, he would receive the same tender of affectionate respect. The apprehension I have spoken of is the only drawback I know of to the pleasures of this evening. If the contemplation of an event, which we must hope is still very distant, interposes so many regrets with the *European Community*, it will be still more severely felt by the *natives*, who never see Mr. Elphinstone here except to receive benefits from him, either through his political power or by his private charities. But, Gentlemen, we will keep this only alloy to our meeting out of present view, and prepare for the toast.

Gentlemen of the Civil Service, you will, I am well aware, do it ample justice, proudly remembering that Mr. Elphinstone is one of you. Gentlemen of the Army, you will receive the toast with joy, for Mr. Elphinstone has always been a soldier wherever he could, and has often been seen foremost in your ranks in the field of action. Scholars, however recently from your studies in science or in literature, there is not one of you who would overstep him in any form to-morrow; you will drink to Mr. Elphinstone as your master-example in talent and in knowledge. Sportsmen, though last not least, (for I never yet knew a good sportsman who was a bad soldier), you will hail the toast with delight, for Mr. Elphinstone has ever been your Patron, and the partaker of your joys.

Up, therefore, up! all classes with one heart, and we will make the walls echo back the peals of our fervent wishes for *Mr. Elphinstone's health and happiness.*

This toast, which was proposed in our

esteemed and gallant President's usual fluent and happy style, was received with the most heartfelt enthusiasm and joy; and while the cheering and applause continued, the band of the Queen's Royals marched round the table playing "*The Garb of Old Gaul*," and a salute of nineteen guns was fired.

Mr. Elphinstone then rose, and made the following reply:

Gentlemen, I beg to return my best thanks for the honour you have done me in drinking my health. I wish I could find adequate terms to express the sense I entertain of all the other kindness with which you have honoured me on this occasion. In whatever view it is taken, I must feel this mark of your favour as a most flattering distinction. In a *public* light I should be gratified by the good opinion of so liberal and enlightened a community; and in a *private* one, I am still more proud of the esteem of so honourable and high-minded a body of gentlemen. My gallant friend has spoken of me in terms which I know not how to acknowledge. I am conscious I owe them to his partiality more than to any merit of my own; but even partiality is honourable from a person of his talents and character; and it is a just source of exultation when it is concurred in by such an assembly.

And now, gentlemen, I have to return my grateful thanks, not only for the present splendid proof of your hospitality, but for the urbanity and cordiality that have made the whole of my residence at this station so pleasant. I had before spent many happy days in the Deccan, and the attachment I shall always feel for the place will be greatly increased by the recollection of my present visit, and of the agreeable and estimable society with which it was my good fortune to meet. I am sure that all the *strangers* present must participate in this feeling, and will gladly join with me in every good wish to, "The Society of the Deccan."

After several other toasts had been drunk, Mr. Elphinstone proposed the health of the President, in the following terms:

"Gentlemen, I should find it difficult to do justice to the toast which I am going to propose, if I were not aware that your own knowledge is sufficient to make up for every deficiency on my part. When I name Sir Lionel Smith, your own recollections will at once suggest to you, both his high public merits and services, and those social qualities which render him the delight of private society. Many of you have witnessed his gallantry in the field, and all are well acquainted with his abilities in the exercise of his high command, his disinterested zeal for the public service, and the benevolence which renders him equally attentive to the comforts of the soldiers and the rights of the peasant.

You

You are all aware of the peculiar circumstances which give his appearance at this meeting so strong a claim to our acknowledgments; and all, I am certain, will unite with me in cordially wishing, that the amiable and interesting person from whom he has just been separated, may soon be restored to him in the full enjoyment of health and happiness. I beg now to propose "the health of Sir Lionel Smith."

Sir L. Smith returned thanks, and proposed "the health of Sir Charles Colville, our late Commander-in-chief;" and from the enthusiasm with which it was received and drank, it was evident he had left a general good feeling and respect behind him, highly gratifying to all who had ever the honour of being associated with that gallant general, as a soldier or friend.

The ladies began to assemble at half-past nine, and were immediately joined by the gentlemen. Dancing commenced with true Deccan spirit. An elegant supper was prepared in the temporary dinner-room, to which all the company retired at one o'clock. During supper, and while all was mirth and merriment, Sir Lionel Smith, at the earnest request of the ladies, rose, and addressed the company as follows:

Gentlemen, some inquiring whispers have come round to me from our fair friends, putting it to me, would I not rise and say something for them to Mr. Elphinstone? Who could resist such an appeal? Gentlemen, I declare myself half angry with the custom which we have given to ourselves, and which precludes ladies from speaking for themselves, on these as well as on all other occasions. We all know they are *always fluent, generally eloquent, always persuasive*. Wanting all these qualities myself, I shall only imperfectly express their amiable feelings towards Mr. Elphinstone; but I can safely assure him, they have always gratefully appreciated his uniform and kind attentions to them. Some among them, perhaps, may wonder and regret that Mr. Elphinstone has never yet quartered their silken chains in his honourable escutcheon, but all will long remember him as one of their kindest votaries. Mr. Elphinstone, the ladies charge me to offer you their *best wishes*.

Mr. Elphinstone replied in appropriate terms. Dancing recommenced with unabated spirit, and was kept up till "the morning star shone singly in the dark blue vault of heaven."—*Bombay Cour.* Dec. 9.

THE THEATRE.

On the 6th Dec. the Bombay Amateur Theatre opened; the play was Colman's "John Bull, or the Englishman's Fire-side." The performance was excellent, and the audience numerous and respectable.

Asiatic Journ. Vol. XXIII. No. 138.

COLABAH.

Colabah is becoming so celebrated for unaffected and social intercourse, that scarcely a week passes without some particular manifestation of it. Dr. Dowison had a quadrille party Nov. 22d; and Capt. Maillard, of the H. C's ship *Amherst*, threw open his hospitable mansion on the 30th to a very numerous party. Dancing continued till the votaries of Terpsichore were at a loss, when the meeting separated, to tell whether it was the sun or the moon, or both, that conducted them to their respective habitations.

PANWELL BRIDGES.

We observe the following paragraph in the *Bombay Gazette* of Dec. 13:—"Considering the extreme accuracy of information on all subjects connected with India affairs, to which the *Asiatic Journal* lays claim, one would think that, for the preservation of its own character, the conductors of that periodical should be a little more on their guard in [against] inserting statements, which have only to be glanced at to discern their own refutation on the face of them. What we allude to more particularly in the present instance, is a letter, signed R. A. N., in that journal for April 1825, pp. 428, 429, in which the writer, speaking of the bridges to be constructed over the new road from Panwell to Poonah, sagely remarks, that 'the engineer's estimate for a single bridge, to be constructed on that road, was 68,000 rupees; whereas the officer commanding the pioneers, calculated that he could construct a bridge to last fifty years, for 4,000 rupees, a saving of 64,000 rupees in *one bridge alone*; and there are three required in the first ten miles of the road.' We would simply ask the gentleman who made the above calculation, whether his *pons quinquagenarius* was to be in all respects like that of the engineer officer's, or whether it was to resemble it in any respect, and also whether it was to be a *pons lapideus* or a *pons subicius*? as on the answer to these questions *depend* entirely the correctness, or otherwise, of the data on which his calculation was founded. What a pity this gentleman's services were not available when the estimate for building the Town-Hall was framed."

In reply to this ill-written paragraph, we observe, that an editor cannot be held responsible for every mis-statement in the communications of his correspondents, especially upon such matters as this. Is he to insert nothing which he cannot verify, to the minutest details? The editor of the *Gazette* considers that the statement carries its own refutation: we confess it does not appear to us that it is yet refuted, though it may be capable of refutation, which the *Gazette* might have shewn without displaying so much bad taste and bad feeling.—*Ed.*

CUTCH PIRATES.

We learn with astonishment, that a Cutch pirate has had the audacity to plunder a trading boat within sight, or nearly so, of the island of Bombay, and got clear off with the property.—*Bomb. Cour. Dec. 20.*

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Nov. 18. *Fallenfield*, Johnson, from Mauritius and London.—Dec. 18. *Hibbert*, Theaker, from Calcutta.—Jan. 13. *Gipsev*, Quick, from Liverpool.

Departure.

Dec. 19. *Fallenfield*, Johnson, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Nov. 14. At Sholapore, the lady of B. W. Cum-berlege, Esq., 7th Lt. Cav., of a son.

22. In camp Kotool, pergunnah Kurlah, Ahmed-nuggur collectorate, the lady of Capt. W. H. Sykes, officiating statistical reporter to Govern-ment, of a son and heir.

— At Colabah, Mrs. R. Beck, of a daughter.

25. At Cambala, the lady of G. Ogilvy, Esq., of a son.

— Mrs. J. Nimmo, of a daughter.

Dec. 1. At Poonah, the lady of Capt. Hender-son, of a son.

5. At Mahim, Mrs. Pascoa A. de Souza, of a son and heir.

6. The lady of Capt. Moore, paymaster Surat division of the army, of a daughter.

7. The lady of G. Simpson, Esq., marine store-keeper, of a son.

8. The lady of G. Forbes, Esq., of a daughter.

18. At Bhooj, the lady of Capt. W. Havelock, H.M.'s 4th Drags., of a son.

26. At the Hermitage, Lady Chambers, of a son.

27. At Colabah, the lady of Capt. Chisholm, Madras Artillery, of a daughter.

— The lady of W. C. Bruce, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.

Jan. 1. The lady of Major H. Pottinger, resi-dent in Cutch, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 15. At St. Thomas's church, Capt. James Morison, 2d regt. Madras cavalry and Assist. Com. Gen., to Maria Macdonald, eldest daughter of John Elphinstone, Esq., late member of council at this presidency.

20. Mr. A. P. Rodrigues, to Rosa, eldest daugh-ter of Rozario de Quadros, Esq., late a merchant of this place.

21. At Colaba, Mr. G. W. Scales, to Mrs. M. Halliday.

25. At Poonah, Lieut. Eyre, H.M.'s 20th regt., to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late John Dodd, Esq.

29. At St. Thomas's Church, Lieut. J. Hohson, 1st Grenadier Regt., youngest son of the late J. P. Hobson, Esq., auditor general Pinang, to Amelia Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Maj. W. C. Green, of this establishment.

Dec. 11. Mr. H. Enderwick, to Miss J. Thomas.

14. At Poonah, John Warden, Esq., civil ser-vice, to Ellen Maria, eldest daughter of Major Gen. Sir Lionel Smith, K.C.B.

20. Mr. J. Harrison, to Miss C. A. M. Collett.

DEATHS.

Nov. 17. At Mhow, Hannah, the wife of Lieut. S. Athill, engineers, and eldest daughter of J. Crosby, Esq., of Kirkhythore, near Applebey, Westmoreland, aged 28.

22. At Baroda, Lieut. John Chesshyre, 15th regt.

— At Belgaum, the lady of Capt. Robson, 1st Bombay Europ. regt., a few hours after giving birth to a daughter.

23. Clarissa Maria, the wife of Lieut. Thomas,

barrack-master to Surat division of the army, aged 25.

Dec. 9. At Cambala, the lady of G. Ogilvy, Esq.

10. At Bhooj, Ens. Ramsey, 2d Europ. Regt.

13. At Baroda, Lieut. J. Dawes, 15th N.I.

19. Amerchund Badrocond Shrawuk Banian, aged 60.

20. At Colabah, Capt. J. B. Seely, of this esta-lishment, aged 35. Capt. Seely was well known as the author of "*The Wonders of Flora*," "*A Voice from India*," and several essays in different periodical publications, on subjects connected with this country.

— Rose, daughter of Mr. S. J. Cross.

23. At Kaira, Thereza, wife of Mr. E. J. Siqueira, head clerk in the Kaira collectorate.

— At Poona, W. Campbell, Esq., late pay-master H.M.'s 20th regt., aged 51.

24. At Colabah, John, only child of the Rev. John Cooper, Hurnee.

Jan. 1. Lieut. T. H. Broadhead, H.C.'s Bombay Marine.

3. James N. Walker, Esq., civil service, se-cond son of James Walker, Esq., Blackheath hill.

Latest. At Colabah, Alfred Sayer, Esq., aged 11.

Ceylon.

CIVIL APPOINTMENT.

Nov. 18. C. Collier, Esq., dep. inspector of hos-pitals, to be superintendent general of vaccination, and principal civil medical officer in this island.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. SAWERS.

We had much pleasure in learning that a great deal of good feeling had been evinced by the chiefs in the Kandyan provinces on the occasion of the retirement of the judicial commissioner, Simon Sawers, Esq., who is about to return to England. They had requested and obtained permission from his Excellency the Governor to ac-company Mr. Sawers in procession as far as the river.

At about noon on Saturday last, Mr. Sawers took his departure from Kandy, attended by all the chiefs within a reason-able distance of the town, and a vast con-course of people, who by every means in their power indicated their respect and at-tachment to the individual in question.

Mr. Sawers has been employed in the Candyan provinces ever since they came into the British possession in 1815, and has mainly contributed, by his integrity and firmness of character, to inspire the natives with respect for and confidence in the British government, and at the same time, by his suavity of manner and conciliating disposition, excited strong feelings of personal attachment. These feelings have not been confined to the natives only, for we hear that a series of fêtes have been given in Kandy on the occasion of Mr. Sawers' retirement, demonstrative of the high respect and regard in which he was held by all classes of society.—*Ceyl. Gaz. Jan. 3.*

REGATTA.

Extract of a letter from Trincomalee:—
"The officers of the navy have made this one

one of the most lively ports in India. Besides our field sports of tiger, elephant, and deer hunting, we have now regattas, one of which was on the 24th November. A race on that day took place: the prize was a silver cup, given by the Hon. Capt. Rous, of H.M.S. *Rainbow*; the entrance money was five rupees, to be divided between the first and second boats. Fourteen boats started from moorings in Cutcheree bay, went round Sober island, and ended by passing to the eastward of H.M. schooner *Cochin*. The prize was won by Lieut. Talbot's lugger *Iris*.

The amusements of the day were enhanced by an elegant *déjeûné* given by Capt. Rous at Rainbow Cottage, which was attended by all the beauty and fashion of Trincomalee. The fête was concluded by a splendid dinner, given to the officers of the squadron by the same liberal patron of the sports of the day."

PROGRESS OF CHRISTIANITY.

The following extract of a letter, written by Bishop Heber, from Galle, in Sept. 1825, addressed to the late Rev. John Mayor, Vicar of Shawbury, Salop, gives a favourable report of the progress of conversion in this island.

"The cause of Christianity is, I hope, going on well here. There is, among the Cingalese and Tamul population, a very large proportion of nominal Christians; who, although unhappily they are only nominal, because their fathers were so before them, or because the profession is creditable, and though too many of them still pay their superstitious homage to Buddha and to the evil principle, have, notwithstanding, fewer external difficulties to contend with, in embracing the true faith, than fall to the share of the poor Hindoos. Among these, and in part among the professed Pagans, I am rejoiced to find that conversions are going on, if not very rapidly, yet steadily; and that the rising generation afford excellent hopes of repaying richly, and even in our own time, the labours of the good men, who have given up parents and friends and country in their service. I have had myself the pleasure of confirming, in this place, Kandy, and Colombo, 300 natives of the island—Portuguese (that is, descendants of Portuguese), Cingalese, and Malabarians: besides which, had I been able to go to Jaffna, for which the season was too far advanced, I am assured that I should have had at least 100 candidates more. In the great church at Colombo, I had to pronounce the blessing in four different languages. Surely this should encourage our best hopes and best exertions; and should fill us with gratitude to God, who has already made the fields white unto the harvest."

BIRTHS.

- Sept. 11. At Trincomalee, Mrs. E. G. Keil, of a son.
 Nov. 18. At Colombo, the lady of Dr. Tillery, medical staff, of a daughter.
 12. At Trincomalee, the lady of Capt. R. Brown, 16th regt., of a daughter.
 19. At Point de Galle, Mrs. Jansz, of a son.
 23. At Colombo, the lady of T. Eden, Esq., of a daughter.
 26. At Colombo, Mrs. A. C. Stratsburgh, of a daughter.
 Dec. 8. At Colombo, Mrs. Gun, of a son.
 28. At Colombo, the lady of Lieut. Col. Lindsey, H.M.'s 78th Highlanders, of a daughter.
 Jan. 5. At Matura, the wife of J. F. Lorenz, Esq., sitting magistrate of that station, of a son.

DEATHS.

- Nov. 2. Mr. Junias Runsted, late master of the schooner *Mary*, in his 25th year.
 8. At Hambangtofte, of fever, Capt. Chas. Driberg, commandant of the district, aged 39; and on the same day, Gertruida Elizabeth, his wife.
 28. At Mattakooly, Anna Catherine, eldest daughter of the late R. S. Tavel, Esq.
 29. At Colombo, J. F. Holland, Esq., aged 31.

Penang.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

- Aug. 1. Mr. S. Garllug, provisional resident councillor at Malacca.
 Mr. E. Presgrave, deputy resident at Singapore.
 Mr. T. Church, acting collector of customs and excise, and acting warehouse-keeper.
 Mr. S. G. Bonham, assistant resident at Singapore.
 Mr. F. C. Sahnoud, assistant to accountant and auditor.
 Mr. H. Nairus, assistant to secretary to Government.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.

- Lieut. Col. E. W. Snow, 25th Madras N.I., to command troops of Prince of Wales' Island, Singapore, and Malacca.
 Capt. H. Ralfe, Bengal artill., to be military secretary and aide-de-camp. to Hon. the Governor.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE HON. MR. PRINCE.

The Hon. J. Prince, Esq., late acting resident of Fort Marlborough, arrived in the ship *Neurchus*, on Wednesday evening, from Bencoolen, and landed the following morning under the salute due to his rank. At one o'clock a salute of fifteen guns was fired on the occasion of Mr. Prince taking the oath and his seat as Resident Councillor of Singapore.—*Penang Gaz.* Nov. 25.

DUTIES AND REGULATIONS.

Notice is hereby given, that the collection of the import and export duties leviable at this port, under the regulation of the 1st May 1812 and 29th June 1816, will be suspended from this date. In order, however, to ensure the regular transmission of statements of the extent and nature of the commerce at this presidency, required for the information of the authorities in England, and at the same time to prevent the import or export of

articles prohibited by law, it is hereby notified, that all the existing rules and forms relative to landing and shipping goods, entry of manifest, &c. at the Custom-house, will continue to be in force.

By order of the Hon. the Governor in council,

J. ANDERSON, Sec. to Govt.

Fort Cornwallis, P. W. Island,

21st November 1826.

TRADE.

Every thing is dull and stagnant in the way of trade at Penang, but not just so bad at Singapore, which promises, provided a free trade continue to exist and that no duties are imposed, and if no impolitic legislation takes place under the new system which the island is about to undergo by a separation of its immediate control by the Bengal government. If the same liberal policy be pursued, it will, ere many years elapse, be a most flourishing settlement.

Mr. Chief Secretary Lushington and his lady landed at Penang on the 7th October; they had received much benefit from their trip. Mrs. Crawford (the lady of the Ava ambassador) had arrived from Singapore.—*Cal. John Bull*, Dec. 11.

THE KING OF QUEDA.

This chief, who has been driven from his dominions by the Siamese, in conjunction with the Raja of Ligore, is now residing at Penang. His territories have been devastated by Siamese, and many of his subjects have taken refuge in that part of the continent now belonging to the English. The coast opposite to Penang, formerly a deserted shore, is now said to be studded with cottages, and inhabited by 12,000 or 14,000 of the Queda refugees. The Penang government allows the king a pension of 500 dollars a month: but has refused his earnest applications for aid, and has prohibited his levying men, or procuring arms at Penang.

DEATH.

Nov. 20. At Kelsø, Ens. H. Barrow, 28th Madras N.L., aged 19.

Singapore.

CONDITION OF THE SETTLEMENT.

Extract of a letter from Singapore, dated November 24, published in the *Calcutta John Bull*:—

"Having read so much about the trade and growing prosperity of this place, I was led to expect a port of great bustle and activity; but, having found from past experience, that where I have an opportunity of bringing what books say, to the standard which one's own eyes contemplate, my expectations uniformly required a considerable chastisement: I was fully pre-

pared to find the picture greatly exaggerated. I have not yet had time to see much or examine with any care; but my first impressions are that the reality of the bustle, activity, and thriving appearance of Singapore even exceeds what its annalist, in its own *Chronicle*, has related of its progress. It may perhaps derive a little of its magnitude from a comparison with the dull and stupid place, Malacca, where every thing is yet Dutch and heavy and cheerless. Here there is more of an English port appearance, than in almost any place I have visited in India. The native character and peculiarities seem to have merged more into the English aspect than I imagined possible, and I certainly think Singapore proves, more satisfactorily than any place in our possessions, that it is possible to assimilate the Asiatic and the European very closely in the pursuits of commerce. The new appearance of the place is also very pleasing to the eye, and a great relief from the broken-down, rotten, and decayed buildings of other parts in the peninsula. The regularity and width of the streets give Singapore a cheerful and healthy look; and the plying of boats and other craft in its river enlivens the scene not a little. At present there are no fewer than three ships of large burden loading for England. The vessels from all parts of the Archipelago are also in great numbers and great variety. At Penang and Malacca the godowns of a merchant scarcely tell you what he deals in, or rather proclaim that he does nothing, from the little bustle that prevails in them: here you stumble at every step over the produce of China and the Straits, in active preparation for being conveyed to all parts of the world. The number of new houses now building is not the least striking feature in the scene, and one to which, in other ports, belonging to European powers, in this part of the world, the eye is a stranger."

SINGAPORE INSTITUTION.

We are happy to learn from a private source, that the Singapore Institution is now in progress of building, owing to the liberal advance of 2,000 dollars made by the Rev. Mr. Burn, chaplain. It cannot be denied that such an establishment as the intended institution must add materially to the importance of Singapore in a literary point of view, and we hope that the proposed grant of 300 dollars a month, with arrears, will be speedily sanctioned by the Hon. the Court of Directors.—*Malacca Obs.*

Netherlands India.

By accounts from Batavia of the 27th January, we learn that his Excellency the Commissioner

Commissioner General, after visiting Samarang, Sourabaya, and the other residences to the East, had returned to Buitenzorg. His Excellency appointed and solemnly installed a principal committee of agriculture, and also appointed sub-committees for the whole island of Java, for the purpose of promoting agriculture.

Some time after the submission of Mangko Diningrat, the insurgent chief, Diepo Negoro directed his principal force against the district of Minoreh, in order, as it seems, to chastise the inhabitants for the defection of his former ally. In consequence of this affair, the columns of Col. Cleerens, and of Majors De Leeuw and Van der Vych had several actions with the enemy in the beginning of January, and notwithstanding the unfavourable season, defeated him with great loss. The troops of Mangko Diningrat behaved well, and supported the Netherlands troops.

The latest accounts from the territories of the princes were of the 16th January. At that time Djocjocarta was tranquil, and the necessary measures had been taken to prevent the farther advance of the rebels into Minoreh and Probolingo.

The accounts from the west coast of Sumatra, received at Batavia, were favourable.—*Dutch Paper.*

Persia.

Despatches, dated the 23d March, have been received from Colonel Macdonald at Tabriz. They announce that a Russian force, consisting of between five and six thousand regular infantry, some battalions of Armenians, and about five thousand cavalry, was assembling at Charak and Caracalak, on the banks of the Araxes, and that Persian troops, under the command of Abbas Mirza, were stationed at Tabriz.

General Yermaloff has been removed from the administration of Georgia and Caucasia. He is succeeded by General Paskovitch.

DECLARATION OF THE SHAH.

The *Jami Jehan Numa*, a Persian Bengal paper, contains a copy of a declaration of Futtch Ali Shah, of Iran, given Mohurrem 1242 (end of September 1826.) The following are its principal passages:—

“Be it known to the illustrious and fortunate prince, the supporter and ornament of the kingdom, Hosein Ali Mirza, that in the spring of this year his Majesty determined to punish the past presumption of Russia in retaining possession of Baghloo, which is a dependance of Gokcheli, in the district of Erivan, as well as the oppression exercised upon the Mohammedan faith and population, of which nu-

merous representations had been recently addressed to the royal court. In evidence of which determination, the royal tents were pitched in the gardens of Sultania, whither an ambassador from Russia arrived, to preserve tranquil relations and deprecate the occurrence of hostilities. The ministers accordingly entered upon negotiations, agreeably to the precept: ‘Be not remiss, but invoke peace, and you will be strong, for God is with you;’ he (the ambassador) for ever departing from agreements, and substituting other proposals. After several days had passed in this manner, no hope appeared that the ambassador would consent to evacuate the usurped territory, nor to promise protection for the Mohammedan districts in possession of his government. Wherefore it was determined to clear the state of the true faith from the spot of infidel usurpation, as it is said: ‘With respect to what is in their hearts, will not God expose their malevolence?’ and ‘Wage war with the infidels in whom there is no faith;’ God will support those who have pledged their faith with the words of truth.’ Orders were given to his highness the *Naib* of the kingdom, to advance with 15,000 mounted troops, and 20,000 others, from the confines of Azerbaijan, to occupy the fort of Shusha; and the districts of Kerabagh, and Hosein Khan, the Sirda of Erivan, was at the same time commanded, with ten thousand regulars and all his own retainers, to occupy Gokcheli, and the country about Teflis.”

The document then continues, in the style of a bulletin, to enumerate the successes of the Persians, but in a very vague, inaccurate, and artificial manner. It concludes with intimating that “further accounts of continued success may be expected.”

The Persian Gulf.

The transactions in the Persian Gulf have been so indistinctly described, that we have found it difficult to appreciate their character; but it appears that the Imam of Muscat has settled his dispute with the Sheikh of Bushir, and has directed his hostilities against Bussora. We understand that the Imam has an annual pecuniary claim upon the Turkish authorities at Bussora, which has fallen into heavy arrears, and finding little prospect of repayment, he has proceeded to dun them by a naval force. At the date of our advices the Turks were preparing for resistance, and had equipped a naval force for that purpose. Communication of the expected attack had been made to the Pasha of Bagdad. According to the Persian paper, the governor of Bussora had met the Imam with two vessels, both of which,

and the Hakem himself, had been taken in the action that ensued. The Hakem had been sent prisoner to Muscat, whilst the Imani advanced against Bussora.—*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*

China.

Calcutta papers contain accounts from Canton to the 2d December. The following report is given of the market.

European Goods.—The quantity imported this season by the Company's direct ships has been unusually great, added to the supplies by American vessels mentioned in our former, which has completely overstocked our market; and at present we could not name an article of European manufactures which would realize within 20 per cent. of its original cost. The accounts also from Singapore and Manilla of the quantity of goods on hand, and the state of these markets, are of so unfavourable a nature that it is probable considerable supplies from those quarters may find their way on to this, in which case we cannot expect amendment for some time to come.

Exchange.—The Company's treasury continues open for bills on Bengal at 203 rupees 100 Sp. drs. and on England at 4s. 3d. per Sp. dr.

Another alarming fire has occurred at Canton, by which four hundred china-men's houses have been destroyed.

Cape of Good Hope.

THE PRESS.

Circular.—The Editor and Proprietor of the *South African Commercial Advertiser* respectfully informs the subscribers, that the publication of that paper is suspended, in consequence of the following letter from the Colonial Office.

Colonial Office, March 10, 1827.

Sir,—I am directed by his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to inform you, that in consequence of a publication in the *South African Commercial Advertiser* of Wednesday, the 24th of May last, containing a statement entitled "Mr. Buissine's Case," and which has been represented by his Excellency the Governor Lord Charles Somerset to be of a false and calumnious nature, his Honour has received instructions from his Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, to cancel the licence under which you are allowed to print and publish that journal.

You will, therefore, from this date consider that license as cancelled and of no effect.

I have honour to be, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

RICHARD PLASKET, Sec. to Govt.
To Mr. G. Greig.

The passage referred to is an extract copied from the *Times* of the 25th of January, 1826.

The editor of the Cape paper intends to proceed without delay to London, for the purpose of representing this transaction to the proper tribunals, and of endeavouring to assist in impressing on the minds of his Majesty's ministers, in every way open to him, the propriety of extending the protection enjoyed by British subjects and British property in other parts of the world, to the inhabitants of the Cape of Good Hope.

Council Office, 13th March, 1827.

COPY OF RESOLUTIONS OF A COUNCIL HELD THIS DAY.

Present—His Honour Major General Bourke, C.B., Lieutenant-Governor; the Hon. Sir John Truter, Chief Justice; the Hon. Sir Richard Plasket, Colonial Secretary; the Hon. Lieut.-Colonel Daniell, second in command; the Hon. Lieut.-Colonel Bell, C.B.; the Hon. J. W. Stoll, Esq., Receiver-General.

The Council having taken into consideration a Memorial addressed to his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, by several of the inhabitants of Cape-town, under date the 12th instant, wherein permission is requested to hold a public meeting, "for the purpose of taking into consideration the circumstances attending the suppression of the *South African Commercial Advertiser* newspaper," are of opinion that this Government has always shown its readiness to comply with any request for permission to hold a public meeting for the purpose of discussing any measures of general policy affecting the interests of the colony; but that the declared object of the meeting for which permission is now requested being to deliberate upon an act of his Majesty's Government, in the case of an individual, the Council are of opinion that the prayer of the memorial cannot be complied with.

And his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor is requested to cause a copy of this resolution to be transmitted to the memorialists.

(Signed) D. M. PERCEVAL.
(A true Copy.)

St. Helena.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS.

St. Helena Artillery.

Castle, James's Fort, Aug. 31, 1826.—2d Lieut. M. J. Johnson to be Lieut.; v. Mend dec.; date of rank 29th Aug. 1826.

March 17, 1827.—Lieut. and Adj. R. Armstrong to have rank of capt. by brevet from 21st Feb. 1827.

March 20.—Lieut. and Brev. Capt. T. M. Hunter to be capt. of a comp., v. Skottis invalided; and 2d Lieut. R. T. Hayes to be Lieut. v. Hunter prom.; dates 16th March 1826.

Governor's

Governor's Staff.

March 20.—Brev. Capt. G. A. Dentafle to be military secretary to Governor and Commander-in-chief.

Lieut. M. J. Johnson to be aide-de-camp to Governor and Commander-in-chief, v. Dentafle.

St. Helena Regiment.

Oct. 16, 1825.—Lieut. Jas. Bennett to be capt. of a comp., Ens. M. O'Connor to be lieut., and Cadet C. S. T. Bond to be ens., in suc. to Capt. H. S. Cole retired from service; date 16th Oct. 1826.

March 20, 1827.—Lieut. P. Cunningham to be capt. of a comp., Ens. J. Sampson to be lieut., and Cadet H. Doretton to be ens., in suc. to Capt. J. W. Torbett retired from service; date 8th March 1827.

EMANCIPATION OF SLAVES.

The Governor and Council are pleased to publish the following extract of a letter which they have received from the Hon. the Court of Directors, dated the 19th of December 1826.

Public Department.—Paragraph 2. We have taken into consideration the third and fourth paragraphs of your despatch, dated the 28th of November 1825, and the documents therein referred to, relative to the expediency of adopting measures in view to the emancipation of the Slaves on your Island.

3. A stop has happily been put to the perpetuity of Slavery at St. Helena, by the noble resolutions which the proprietors of Slaves there adopted in the year 1818—by which children born subsequently to that period were declared free.

4. But although the eventual abolition of Slaves has thus been secured, yet there are a considerable number of persons who must continue in that degrading state during life; unless steps be taken for their manumission, and to whom the misery and degradation of Slavery appear aggravated by the contrast between their condition and that of their free-born progeny.

5. The interest which we feel in the speedy and entire abolition of Slavery at St. Helena, is proportioned to our anxious desire for the welfare of the Island, and for the happiness of all classes of its population, persuaded as we are that Slavery presents the most serious of all obstacles to the prosperity of the Community where it exists.

6. It must, however, be admitted that the subject is encompassed with difficulties. Humanity should not be permitted to interfere with substantial justice, nor can manumission be granted with safety to the community, or benefit to the individual, until he is suitably prepared to receive it.

7. The nature of these difficulties is so peculiarly local, that we must depend mainly upon your efforts to remove them; and we shall do so with entire confidence, justified by the enlightened and benevolent sentiments recorded on your proceedings, and especially in General Walker's Minute of the 21st of November 1825.

8. We think, however, that the communication to you, and through you to the Slave Proprietors, of our opinions and views, may have a salutary effect in reconciling conflicting parties—and in upholding and strengthening your efforts; and with this hope, we declare our deliberate conviction, that, so soon as a Slave understands and appreciates the nature and blessing of freedom, that boon should, if possible, be conferred; and further, that it is the bounden duty of the government to take all practicable steps, in the way of education and instruction, for fitting the Slaves for the reception of so inestimable a privilege. If the schools already instituted do not present sufficient means for the education of Adult Slaves, the deficiency ought to be supplied; and we shall be ready to sanction any arrangements which you may deem calculated to promote that object.

9. But we must express an equally decided opinion that the Proprietors are justly entitled to the value of their Slaves whenever they may be declared free. This point being provided for, the Proprietors would have no cause of complaint, nor would they, we are persuaded, unnecessarily retard the emancipation of their Slaves.

10. The value of Slaves should not be arbitrarily fixed according to the caprice or particular views of each individual Proprietor; but (as your Governor proposes) by the fair inquiries of a committee chosen partly by the government and partly by the Proprietors. The valuation of that Committee should be made periodically, and deposited in a government office, for the purpose of reference as occasions might require.

11. The period at which a Slave may be manumitted must necessarily be that at which he, or some one on his behalf, may tender to the Proprietors the amount of the valuation. Freedom may then be safely granted, and must not be withheld; for whether the means of redemption may have been obtained through personal industry in hours of leisure sanctioned by his master, or through the good opinion of benevolent individuals, it may with reason be expected that the Slave is deserving of the blessing which he seeks to possess.

12. The whole of a Slave's time, excepting Sundays, belongs to his master, and thus it is obvious, that unless the master allow a small portion of time, the Slave will not be enabled to earn the price of his redemption. We trust, and, from their conduct hitherto, we have reason to believe, that the masters generally will not hesitate to concede some indulgence in this respect. A very limited period might accomplish the object, for a great deal may be effected in a little time by a Slave when he knows that freedom will be the result of industry. We would further suggest that

that the paid labour of the Slaves during the time which may be allowed to them should, if possible, be rendered in the service of their respective masters.

13. The Savings' Bank which we lately sanctioned will enable the Slaves to deposit their earnings at interest.

14. We are aware that, even supposing these arrangements to be carried into effect to the utmost extent which can be reasonably contemplated, there will still remain cases of Slaves without any fair prospect of becoming free by their own exertions. In such cases, *when you are satisfied of the good character of the Slave*, we authorize you, for the purposes of reward to him, and of example to others, to pay the valuation, as a loan (without interest) from the Company to the Slave, upon his undertaking to reimburse it gradually out of his earnings.

15. We further authorize you in all cases, in which for the like purposes you may deem it expedient to accelerate the period of manumission of Slaves who may be making deposits out of their earnings, to advance, as a loan, the difference between such deposits and the valuation.

16. The 37th Article of the Slave Code, as modified in 1819, prescribes that, before any Slave whose age exceeds forty shall be manumitted, his master shall give bond in the sum of £160 to indemnify the parish from all claim on account of such Slave, should he prove incapable to maintain himself.

17. Your Governor now suggests that the age may be extended to fifty-five, and omitted altogether if the vestry should after inspection be of opinion that the bond was unnecessary.

18. We fully concur in this suggestion, and you have our authority to act upon it accordingly; it being however understood, that the vestry shall exercise great caution and discretion, so as to prevent Slaves of bad character, and who may be useless as servants, from being thrown upon society by their masters.

19. We are not ignorant that the acts of grace and favour which we have now authorized will eventually entail expense on the Company. Where the Slave falls sick, or becomes old and infirm, we cannot expect to be repaid what has been lent. But this is a loss to which we are content to be subjected, as the cost of effecting great good.

20. We know also that the sick and infirm of those who may be manumitted must be maintained, but this charge should properly be borne by the parish funds, which in the instances in which bonds may have been given by the Proprietors, as before adverted to, will be thereby indemnified. In cases where bonds may not have been required, the Proprietors of the manumitted Slaves who contribute

to the parish funds will be relieved from the charge, and the Islanders at large will be benefited by the gradual abolition of Slavery. We repeat therefore, that the parish funds should be subjected to the cost of maintaining manumitted Slaves rendered, by infirmity, incapable of earning their maintenance.

21. We prefer the system of aiding meritorious Slaves in obtaining their freedom, by loans, to that of directly conferring a pecuniary gift; because we are of opinion, that the Slave will more duly appreciate the blessing when he has earned it, than he would if it were freely bestowed; and also, because we consider the Company fairly entitled to be reimbursed, out of the future earnings of a manumitted Slave, the sum expended on his redemption.

22. In reference to the suggestion contained in the 19th paragraph of your Governor's minute, we desire that, in future, a husband and wife, a parent or parents, and child or children, under the age of fifteen years, who may be the property of the same person, shall, if sold by him, be sold only together, and in one lot, and to the same person.

23. It has been urged in objection to the emancipation of slaves at St. Helena, that it would be difficult to supply their place by free labour; some such inconvenience might probably be sustained if the emancipation were general, but not so long as it is limited to those slaves who shall give solid proof of their industry and good character. The labour which these slaves would perform when free men, would, we think, be greater than that which they yielded in a state of servitude.

24. We cannot dismiss this subject without expressing to you our sense of the great importance of employing natives of the island for all purposes of labour there. The first evil to be corrected is slavery: that which is only subordinate to it is your dependance on foreign labourers. It is of little use giving freedom to the slave, unless measures be simultaneously adopted to stimulate the exertions of free labour among the native islanders, and thus to give scope to the manumitted slave to use his freedom aright: as long as labour is performed by Chinese, and others imported for the purpose, so long, may it be feared, will the lower class of the native population be generally inert and dependent paupers.

25. Difficulty would undoubtedly be experienced in the first attempts to substitute island for foreign labourers, the inhabitants being accustomed to employ foreigners, who are also understood to be more expert, and more generally useful than the natives:

26. But whatever be the difficulty, the effort should be strenuously used to surmount

mount it; and we are convinced that, by firm and judicious proceedings on your part, the necessity for employing foreigners may be gradually but surely diminished. All parties are deeply interested in the attempt: those of the higher rank, that they may be relieved from the burden of maintaining the indolent and profligate; and those of the lower rank, that they may be enabled and encouraged to earn by honest industry a maintenance for themselves and their families. The corresponding moral benefit is too apparent to need its being pointed out.

27. When the sense of the mutual de-

pendance upon each other of the several classes of your native population shall be practically felt and acted upon, then, and not before, may we expect that our ardent wishes on behalf of your island will be realized.

28. We indulge a confident hope, that the measures now in progress for establishing the culture of silk at St. Helena, will have a salutary effect upon your population, in stimulating them to the prosecution of useful and productive labour. (True Extract.)

(Signed) G. BLENKINS, Sec. to Govt.
St. Helena, 5th April, 1827.

Postscript to Asiatic Intelligence.

Accounts from Rangoon state that the place was evacuated, on the 9th December, by the British troops, who were conveyed to Moul-mein. H. M.'s 45th regiment is stationed, with the concurrence of the viceroy, at Old Martaban. The greatest harmony subsisted between the British and Burmese authorities. Before General Campbell left Rangoon, he stipulated with the viceroy, on behalf of British subjects, that no duty, or charge of any description, shall be made on goods brought by British subjects to Rangoon, during its late occupation; but merchants may buy and sell them, without hindrance; and all merchants wishing to ship such goods to a foreign country, shall be at liberty to do so free of duties and charges, within three months from the date of the evacuation. Sir A. C. left Lieut. Rawlinson, of the

Bengal Artillery, in political charge of the British interests, till further arrangements.

The Taliens had commenced hostilities against the Burmese. Dallah has been taken by them and destroyed by fire : Tackali, the suburb of Rangoon, has shared the same fate. The Taliens have defeated several parties of the Burmese, and captured about 500 boats, amongst which is the viceroy's war-boat. The Taliens have occupied a position a little above Monkey Point, where they remained at the date of the last advices ; and it was fully expected that they would succeed in getting possession of Rangoon. They hoisted the Pegu colours at Dallah, a white flag, with an anomalous kind of bird with four legs, as their national emblem.

INDIAN SECURITIES AND EXCHANGES.

Calcutta, Jan. 23, 1827.

Government Securities.

Buy.		Rs. As.	Rs. As. [Sell	
Prem.	24	0	Remittable Loan 6 per ct.	23 8 Prem.
Disc.	1	8	Five per ct. Loan	2 0 Disc.
Idtto	2	0	New 5 per cent. Loan	3 0 Disc.

Rates of Exchange.

On London, 6 months' sight,—to buy 1s. 10½ d. to 1s. 11d.—to sell 2s. per Sicca Rupee.
On Madras, 30 days ditto, 92 to 96 Sicca Rupees per 100 Madras Rupees.
On Bombay, ditto, 98 Sicca Rupees per 100 Bombay Rupees.

Bank Shares.—Prem. 5,100 to 5,150.

Madras, Jan. 24, 1827.

Government Securities.

Six per cent. Bengal Remittable Loan.
At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 350
Madras Rs., per 335 Sa. Rs. 28 Prem.
At a Rate prevailing among Merchants
Asiatic Journ. Vol. XXIII. No. 198.

and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 100, Madras Rs., per 100 Sa. Rs. 26 Prem.

Five per cent. Bengal Unremittable Loan.

At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 350
Madras Rs., per 335 Sa. Rs. Prem.

At the Rate prevailing among Merchants and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 10C½ Madras Rs., per 100 Sa. Rs. 2½ Disc.

Bombay, Jan. 13, 1827.

A Five per cent. Loan open.

Exchange.

On London, at 6 months' sight, 1s. 9d. per Rupee.
On Calcutta, at 30 days' sight, 105 Bom. Rs. per
100 Sicca Rupees.
On Madras, at 30 days' sight, 99½ Bom. Rs. per 100
Madras Rs.
5 X

Parliamentary Papers.

AN ACCOUNT of the Revenues and Charges of India, in each Year from 1822-23 ; showing the Annual Surplus of Revenue or Charge after the Payment of Territorial Charges in England.

	1822-23.	1823-24.	1824-25.
REVENUES.			
	£.	£.	£.
Bengal.....	14,163,277	12,950,308	13,479,192
Fort St. George.....	5,585,210	5,498,765	5,440,743
Bombay.....	3,372,447	2,789,550	1,785,217
Bencoolen.....	6,691	5,805	6,811
Prince of Wales' Island.....	44,076	35,956	38,220
Total.....	23,171,701	21,280,384	20,750,183
Deduct: Charges.....	19,963,648	20,726,723	22,064,035
Net Revenues in India.....	3,208,053	553,661	—
Net Charges in India.....	—	—	1,313,852

Note: The variations in the results exhibited in this Account from those exhibited in the Annual detailed Accounts for 1822-23 and 1823-24, are caused by some trifling adjustments, and by the omission from the Charges incurred in India of the value of Territorial Stores consigned from England, the cost of which is included among the charges paid in England.

	1822-23.	1823-24.	1824-25.
CHARGES.			
	£.	£.	£.
Bengal.....	8,746,042	9,445,538	11,394,496
Fort St. George.....	5,072,992	6,213,817	5,714,849
Bombay.....	4,264,448	3,228,150	3,279,398
Bencoolen.....	96,472	88,467	101,528
Prince of Wales' Island.....	88,957	98,302	113,331
Total.....	18,268,917	19,074,274	20,603,602
Interest on Debts.....	1,694,731	1,652,449	1,460,433
Total Charges and Interest.....	19,963,648	20,726,723	22,064,035
Expense of St. Helena.....	120,093	112,268	109,449
Political Charges paid in England, including Invoice Amount of Terri- torial Stores consigned to India.... }	*1,720,724	1,153,866	1,580,259
Grand Total of Charges.....	21,804,465	21,992,857	23,753,743
Revenues.....	23,171,701	21,280,384	20,750,183
Surplus Revenue.....	1,367,236	—	—
Surplus Charge.....	—	712,473	3,003,560

* In this year the balance of the Loan advanced by the Public to the East-India Company in 1812, was redeemed under the arrangements ratified by Parliament (3d Geo IV., c. 93). The total of the Debt redeemed and Interest amounted to £1,857,335, of which sum £557,335 only, the amount discharged in cash, is included in the above statement. The Balance, amounting to £1,300,000, having been set off against the claims of the East-India Company on the Public.

(Errors excepted.)

East-India House,
6th April 1837.

JAMES C. MELVILL,
Aud. of India Accounts.

THOS. G. LLOYD, } As regards Political Payments
Acct. Gen. } made in England.

AMOUNT of the Territorial Debt owing by the East-India Company at their several Presidencies in the East Indies, on the 30th April in each year, from 1822 inclusive, and according to the latest Advices.

	Bengal.	Madras.	Bombay.	Total.
	At 2s. the Cur. Rupee. £.	At 8s. the Pagoda. £.	At 2s. 3d. the Rupee. £.	£.
1822. Debts at 4 per Cent.	—	—	68,708	68,708
Do. 6 do.	28,905,018	2,438,629	169,080	31,512,727
Do. 8 do.	—	17,600	—	17,600
Total Debts bearing Interest	28,905,018	2,456,229	237,788	31,599,035
Debts not bearing Interest	5,793,875	599,281	548,586	6,941,742
Total Debts in India	34,698,893	3,055,510	786,374	38,540,777
1823. Debts at 4 per Cent.	—	—	57,694	57,694
Do. 6 do.	26,513,871	2,582,985	176,336	29,273,192
Do. 8 do.	—	17,600	—	17,600
Total Debts bearing Interest	26,513,871	2,600,585	234,030	29,348,486
Debts not bearing Interest	6,295,820	687,114	451,277	7,434,211
Total Debts in India	32,809,691	3,287,699	685,307	36,782,697
1824. Debts at 4 per Cent.	—	834	138,832	139,666
Do. 5 do.	11,776,471	—	—	11,776,471
Do. 6 do.	11,496,206	2,800,886	203,440	14,500,532
Do. 8 do.	—	17,600	—	17,600
Total Debts bearing Interest	23,272,677	2,819,320	342,272	26,434,269
Debts not bearing Interest	6,678,907	845,333	471,183	7,995,423
Total Debts in India	29,951,584	3,664,653	813,455	34,429,692
1825. Debts at 4 per Cent.	1,529,042	6,389	138,587	1,674,018
Do. 5 do.	10,914,602	153,827	—	11,068,429
Do. 6 do.	11,177,322	2,984,842	208,997	14,371,161
Do. 8 do.	—	17,600	—	17,600
Total Debts bearing Interest	23,620,966	3,162,658	347,584	27,131,208
Debts not bearing Interest	7,259,931	708,233	573,096	8,541,260
Total Debts in India	30,880,897	3,870,891	920,680	35,672,468
Per Quick Stocks, 31st October 1825 :				
• Debts at 4 per Cent.	532,649	19,554	158,148	710,351
Do. 5 do.	14,998,504	—	—	14,998,504
Do. 6 do.	11,032,113	3,170,800	57,210	14,260,153
Do. 8 do.	—	17,600	180,475	198,075
Treasury Notes at an Interest of } 3½ and 2 pyc per diem }	366,247	—	—	366,247
Total debts bearing Interest	26,929,513	3,207,954	395,863	30,533,330
Debts not bearing Interest	6,946,067	843,595	584,752	8,374,414
Total Debts in India	33,875,580	4,051,549	980,615	38,907,744

(Errors Excepted).

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS, May 14.

Thanks to the Army and Navy in India.
—Viscount *Goderich* introduced his motion for a vote of thanks to the army and navy employed in the late wars in India, by observing, that he should take care not to advert to any of those political topics connected with the cause and origin of the war against the Burmese, or the attack upon the fortress of Bhurtpore. His lordship then enumerated the difficulties under which the war with Ava was first commenced, in the course of which he observed, that it was impossible for any language to convey in sufficiently strong terms, the efforts made by Sir Thomas Monro, the head of the government of Madras, in which presidency the main body of the troops was collected, who were drawn from great distances with the utmost rapidity. But the merit of the praise, was not due to Sir Thomas Monro alone, who brought the troops together, for there were few circumstances under which the native troops had so signalized themselves, and their conduct gave a character to that portion of the forces of the East-India Company which was beyond all praise. Most of the native troops had been brought from distances of many hundred miles, some from a distance of a thousand miles, and yet there were no more than two individuals who had not embarked with their corps. After passing high eulogiums upon the conduct of the army and the navy employed in Ava, his lordship adverted to Bhurtpore, and pointed out the advantages which had been secured by its capture. He could say, with perfect truth and justice, that the preparations made to ensure the certainty of success, were only equalled by the attack. His lordship then moved votes of thanks in the same terms as those agreed to in the House of Commons.

The Duke of *Wellington* bore testimony to the merits of Lord Combermere in the capture of Bhurtpore. He commenced operations, and carried them on with a vigour and activity which ensured their success, and closed them by a military feat which had never been surpassed by any army upon any occasion. With respect to the operations in Ava, little more was known of that country than its name. The Indian government knew nothing of the climate, of the government, or the people, its military force, or any of those circumstances which would enable any man to form a plan of military operations. Under these circumstances, it was not to be wondered at that the operations should

have excited so much anxiety and doubts as to their termination. The army found that every animal had been driven out of the country, and every man suffered under great privations in consequence of the want of provisions. It was not possible to describe the nature of those privations which the troops suffered, and which were aggravated by the climate of the country. The officers and troops had, however, borne all these privations, and encountered every difficulty, with the greatest cheerfulness; and after vanquishing a numerous enemy, brought the contest to an end honourable to this country, by that which he hoped would be a lasting peace. Under these circumstances, he conceived that there had been no occasion upon which their lordships had been called upon to express their approbation where it was better deserved.

The Earl of *Carlisle* could have wished that the name of the Governor-General, who had so ably and successfully made every preparation for the war, might have been inserted in the thanks of this House. He regretted that his noble friend who presided over the government in India had been subjected to injurious and unfounded misrepresentations; though he trusted his noble friend would be able to answer those misrepresentations satisfactorily to his country, by mentioning the two simple words, "Ava" and "Bhurtpore."

The Earl of *Morley* bore equal testimony to the merits of Lord Amherst, without whose firmness and wisdom the glorious achievement at Bhurtpore would never have taken place.

The Earl of *Harrowby* said, that after the observations that had been made, he considered it necessary for some member of his Majesty's Government to declare that the glorious results which had been accomplished were not only attributable to the valour of our troops, but to the judgment and discretion of the Governor-General. The only reason why the noble lord had not been included in the vote of thanks was, that it was not usual that the thanks of the house should be voted to the civil officers of the State. He begged to declare, in the most unqualified manner, that there was great merit due to the noble lord at the head of the Government: it was not only the valour of our troops, but the firmness and judgment of the noble lord, which had secured to the country such brilliant success.

The Resolution was then agreed to *nem. con.*

HOUSE OF COMMONS, May 8.

Thanks to the Army and Navy in India.

—Mr. C. W. W. Wynn acknowledged the pleasure he felt in bringing forward a motion upon which there could be no difference of opinion. It was not his intention to propose any vote on this occasion which would affect the political government of India. He stated this, because he believed that as to the policy of the late war there existed some difference of opinion. He was far from admitting that for this opinion there was the slightest foundation; but he thought that, in general, the thanks of Parliament were best limited to the performance of military or naval services, as to which it was seldom that any opposition of feeling could exist. The service to which he had to refer, had certainly not been of so brilliant and imposing a character at all points, as some upon which, in the course of his experience, he had had opportunities of congratulating the House. The enemy, in fact, had been of a less noble, and perhaps of a less formidable, character than those which we had had in other places to encounter. But the troops employed had been compelled to meet local difficulties such as soldiers in very few instances had ever had to contend with. This service of danger and difficulty had not been confined to the army: its operations had been most materially aided by the navy, to the exertions of which the highest credit, throughout the enterprize, was due. It was also a new feature in this contest, lying, as the scene of operations had done, mainly upon the banks of a great navigable river, that the power of steam had for the first time been applied in aid of our warfare, and used with the most unequivocal success. It was not necessary to enter into the details of a struggle which had been as honourable to the British arms throughout its progress as in its termination. Upon that last part of the question certainly he would detain the house for a single moment, in noticing the conduct of Sir Archibald Campbell. The moderation and discretion of that gallant officer, in checking his army when it was within four days' march of the enemy's capital, and when that plunder which would have fairly recompensed his soldiers for their toils was open to them, could not too highly be commended. There was another gallant officer to whom he must also allude by name: it was impossible for him to pass over the signal service performed by Lord Combermere, in the taking of Bhurtpore. That great and important fortress was the only one which had ever withstood our arms in India. In the time of Lord Lake, circumstances had brought upon us the misfortune of being repulsed from before it, and the effect which that success had produced upon the superstitious con-

querors was indescribable; they believed that it was charmed by their deity, and impregnable for ever to European arms. The right hon. gentleman, after speaking in high terms of the Madras sepoy, concluded by moving as follows:—

That the thanks of this House be given to Gen. Lord Viscount Combermere, G. C. B., and Commander-in-chief of the forces in India, for his able and meritorious conduct, in the command of the forces employed against Bhurtpore, and particularly for the ability, judgment, and energy with which he planned and directed the assault of that fortress, the success of which brilliant achievement has highly contributed to the honour of the British arms, and to the permanent tranquillity of our possessions in the East.

That the thanks of this House be given to Major Generals Sir Thomas Reynell, K. C. B., Sir Jasper Nicolls, K. C. B., and Sir S. F. Whittingham, K. C. B.; and to Brig. Generals John W. Adams, C. B., John McCombe, C. B., and James W. Sleigh, C. B.; and to the several officers of the army, both European and native, employed in the late operations against Bhurtpore, for their gallant conduct and meritorious exertions.

That this House doth highly approve and acknowledge the zeal, discipline, and bravery, displayed by the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, both European and native, employed in the operations against Bhurtpore; and that the same be signified to them by the commanders of the several corps, who are desired to thank them for their gallant behaviour.

That the thanks of this House be given to Major Gen. Sir Archibald Campbell, G. C. B., for the valour and perseverance displayed by him in the late operations against Ava, and for the eminent skill and judgment with which he conducted the war to an honourable termination, under circumstances of peculiar difficulty.

That the thanks of this House be given to Brig. Generals Wm. Macbean, C. B., Willoughby Cotton, C. B., Michael McCreaigh, C. B.; and to the several officers of the army, both European and native, engaged in the late operations against Ava, for their indefatigable zeal and exertions throughout the war.

That this House doth highly approve and acknowledge the zeal, discipline, and bravery displayed by the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, both European and native, employed against Ava; and that the same be signified to them by the commanders of the several corps, who are desired to thank them for their gallant behaviour.

That the thanks of this House be given to Commodore Sir James Brisbane, K. C. B., for his cordial co-operation, and the essential service rendered by him in the late operations against Ava.

That the thanks of this House be given to the several captains and officers of His Majesty's and the East-India Company's naval forces employed in the late operations against Ava, for their skillful, gallant, and meritorious exertions, which greatly contributed to the successful issue of the war.

That this House doth highly approve and acknowledge the services of the seamen and marines serving on board the ships of His Majesty and the East-India Company, employed in the late operations against Ava; and that the same be signified to them by their respective commanders.

That the said resolutions be transmitted by the Speaker to Lord Viscount Combermere; and that his Lordship be requested to communicate the same to the several officers referred to therein.

Mr. Hume seconded the motion. He entirely concurred with Mr. Wynn in his view of the services performed, the value and difficulty of which the right hon. gentleman had rather understated than exaggerated. He rejoiced also in the particular course which the motion of the right hon. gentleman had taken; because, although he cheerfully acknowledged the excellent conduct of the war, it would have been impos-

impossible for him to have given the same opinion as to its merits, if that question had been included in the vote. The right hon. gentleman had said nothing of the troops employed at Arracan. He thought their services had been of the most distressing nature, and that they were well entitled to a separate vote. For the generosity which the right hon. gentleman had attributed to Sir A. Campbell, in refusing his troops the plunder of Amerapoora, he rather believed that that policy was a prudent as well as a liberal one: for, as the gallant general, at the time when he signed his treaty, had not more than 2,000 men under arms, and the inhabitants of the city, of which he was within four days' march, exceeded that number about fifty times over; it seemed more than likely that, if he had gone on, instead of having to plunder the great city, his little army would have been destroyed the moment he entered it. With respect to the fortress of Bhurtpore, he could speak from some experience on that subject; and he agreed with the right hon. gentleman opposite as to the value of that service entirely. He had been in India when the British troops had been four times repulsed from before that fortress, and fully recollected the impression which that result had produced upon the natives. The taking of that fort did the highest credit to the activity of Lord Combermere, and was of the utmost importance to our possessions in India.

Mr. *Wynn* observed, that the reason why Sir A. Campbell had taken no greater number of troops than 2,000, was, that that force was deemed by him sufficient for the capture of the city, and a greater number would have impeded his march. The right hon. gentleman explained why more of the subordinate officers in command were not named. It had been well considered during the late war, and the practice adopted was, not to name any officers of a rank lower than he had now done, separately. Had he felt himself at liberty to do otherwise, he could not but have noticed with marked praise Lieut. Col. Sale: but the reason for this abstinence was, that in a service where so many were engaged in different operations, some of which, though useful, did not immediately lead to the success of the action, it was invidious to name any without naming all.

Mr. *Hume* thought that this rule should not be applied to India.

Sir *J. S. Yorke* thought that some of the captains of the navy ought to be mentioned by name, especially that fire-eater, Capt. Chad.

Sir *G. Cockburn* said, that the rule was to name no officer below the rank of commodores, or he should have wished

to notice Captains Chad, Marryatt, and Alexander.

Some members expressed a hope that the East-India Company would distribute the sums paid by the King of Ava, under the treaty, amongst the troops and navy employed.

The resolutions were then agreed to unanimously.

May 15.

East India Trade.—Mr. *W. Whitmore* brought forward his proposed motion for a select committee to inquire into the trade between Great Britain and India, which he prefaced by a speech of considerable length. After adverting to the distresses which the country experienced, the falling-off of the revenue, and the state of Ireland, he complained of the erroneous principles which guided our commerce with India. On the partial opening of the trade, at the last renewal of the Company's charter, it was prognosticated, he observed, that our commerce with the natives would not be enlarged, owing to the prejudices of the natives; that the trade in cotton manufactures especially could experience no increase. This prophecy had singularly failed; the increase in this branch of trade had been marvellous. The hon. gentleman then proceeded to point out the augmentation which had taken place in the imports, as well as exports, from India since 1814. He then dwelt upon the hardship arising from the unequal duties imposed upon East-India products, compared with those on the West-India articles. He complained of the utter indifference to any consideration of justice or policy in the imposition of these duties, no less than those imposed on our imports into India. Indian manufactured cottons were subject to a duty of 10 per cent. on importation; while ours paid a duty of two and a half per cent. on importation into India. It was like saying, "We have the power and will use it," without any other argument. It was most unjust, and must be resented, if India should ever feel her strength, and compare the numbers of her population with those of her oppressors; and above all, if these numbers were taught to reflect upon the distance of our own country from our Indian possessions, and the difficulty of furnishing, under the worst crisis, an adequate force. He next referred to the article of sugar, the only one of bulk sent from India, and the consumption of which might be greatly increased. He was ready to admit the excess of that product in the West-Indian market, and that, in consequence, the price of the article was not affected by the monopoly. He would admit that this consequence was confirmed by the admission, under the restriction, of a quantity of East-India sugar, which latterly averaged 244,000 cwt., at a duty of

of 10s. per cwt., and sold at a loss to the trader. But he contended that the consumption might be increased beyond the limits of this two-fold excess, and that in effecting that object, they would not only increase the population, but provide ample and comfortable means for its existence. The consumption of sugar per head per annum was in England 23½lb.; that of Ireland only 6lb. What should hinder Ireland, if her population were employed, from consuming 12lb. or 18lb. per head? Might she not, by exporting manufactures, and importing and consuming produce, become, instead of a source of expense and disquiet, a tower of strength, and a mine of wealth to the whole empire? He then observed that the Company secured to itself in some cases the right of pre-emption. Their resident agents advanced money to the growers, and then shut up the produce, so as to answer the demands of the Company. In short, they connected sovereignty with trade in a manner which never was found to answer. The hon. member then adverted to the China trade, and trusted that the period would soon arrive—he alluded to the year 1833—when some changes might be expected; when there would be active commerce commenced in that quarter. There was another point in which he deemed the removal of restriction desirable—he meant respecting the emporia at Singapore and other places. It was exceedingly important that the principles upon which these emporia were regulated should be sound, and well adapted for real commercial advantages; through them chiefly was the trade of China conducted; and there was no other way of trading there, according to Mr. Crawford, considering the extreme jealousy of the Chinese. It was singular that the place from which alone tea could be collected, he meant Canton, was not either in or near any of the provinces which produced the article. If a committee were appointed, the advantages of a free trade would then be clearly demonstrated, and a boundless extent of new commerce might be opened to Great Britain. This would be the way to secure a real revenue from our possessions—one arising from a mutuality of profit, and not drawn or wrung exclusively, as was the old plan, from the people of India.

Mr. *Leycester* said, he was influenced to support this motion for eventually repealing the higher duty upon East-India products by a number of unanswerable reasons. It was called for by consistency, justice, and policy. It was called for also, by humanity: because, what could be more humane than to oppose the system of keeping up the price of sugar at a rate which prevented one drop of sweet from falling into the bitter cup which the poor of England had to drink? The re-

peal of the tea duties was likewise called for by public opinion: for nothing was so sorely felt by the community, as the maintenance of these extravagant prices for an article in constant use. It was a grievance, an injury, and an insult to prolong such a system; and the people were fully prepared to act, if obliged, upon a West-India non-consumption sugar agreement.—(*A laugh!*)

Mr. *Huskisson* said, that the last speaker seemed to think the equalization of the sugar duties was a work of the greatest facility, and that he had at least an obvious remedy in what he called his non-consumption sugar agreement. There was no novelty, however, in that recommendation; it had been often talked of for several years, without accomplishing any of the foreboded results; for though the hon. gentleman had told them the people were of late prepared to act upon it, yet the real fact was, that the consumption of British plantation sugars had considerably increased within the last year, and produced a revenue over and above all drawbacks of not less than £5,000,000 sterling. He agreed in almost all the general principles concerning trade which the hon. mover had propounded, and as far as they could be fairly and justly brought into practice, he was anxious to see them promoted. He admitted that if any impost were proved to be unjust, it was the duty of Parliament to consider how it could be repealed. Agreeing, as he did, in the general principles of the hon. gentleman, he was only at issue with him as to their application. It was always difficult to adapt great changes in the commercial relations of a country to the existing interests which were to be affected by them, and had grown up and been fostered under a different system. It was the duty of Parliament, in making such changes, to weigh well, that in benefiting one class, they did not more than counterbalance the advantage by inflicting an injury upon some other. (*Hear!*) It was certainly cheering to observe the beneficial growth of free trade to India, and he had no doubt that it would continue to increase if not precipitately tampered with. But they must attend to other interests, as they advanced in their progressive relaxation of the old restrictions, or else they might injure where they were seriously disposed to serve. With reference to what had been said on the subject of the monopoly of sugar, he could not help remarking, that that monopoly did not appear to have materially affected the price of the article. The supply of sugar from the West-India islands exceeded by 50,000 or 60,000 hogsheads the whole consumption of the United Kingdom, and that surplus must find a vent in the other markets of Europe, where it had to encounter the sugars of Brazil,

Brazil, Cuba, and the East-Indies, and to obtain a price of course dependent upon its open competition with them. How was it if the East-India sugars were so cheaply obtainable, that this surplus of the West-India produce, which was described to be so much dearer in price, could find, as it did, a foreign market? With this single observation he dismissed the hon. gentleman's remark upon this being a tax upon slavery. Indeed, he did not believe that if the sugar duties were taken off, there would be an increase of the exportation of it from India, for it now came home at the very cheapest rate, owing to its being brought more as ballast than an article of trade, and at a very small freight, and yet it was a discouraging traffic. He was quite prepared to admit, that the regulations respecting the refining of sugar were not of the most satisfactory kind. (*Hear, hear!*) But that was a subject of great difficulty, open to the conflicting opinions of different interests; still he hoped to effect an improvement in it, so as to satisfy all parties. With respect to part of the speech of his hon. friend, in which he alluded to the cheering prospect which the number of islands in the Indian sea held out to him of a great extension of commerce,—he had to state, and with great satisfaction, because it was the result of those principles of policy which he (Mr. Huskisson) had recommended, that Singapore and other great emporia were included in those regulations which the East-India Company had consented to adopt. (*Cheers!*) Those ports were now as free and as open as possible, no duty of any description being demanded. This was the commencement of a system which, in his opinion, promised the most beneficial results. He had recommended it as a much wiser course to maintain for a time the expense of those establishments, which, in all probability, would, at no very distant period, form the centre of an extensive commerce, rather than to levy small duties at first, and thus risk the destruction of so fair a prospect. (*Cheers!*) What effect these regulations would have upon the trade with China and elsewhere it was not for him now to anticipate; but he must say that he confidently looked forward for the time when the British flag should be seen to float between the western part of America and the eastern part of Asia. In the mean time it was the office and the duty of government to lay the foundation, and to prepare as it were the highways for that commerce. (*Cheers!*) If he might be allowed to advise his hon. friend, he would recommend him to wait until the result of those experiments which were already in progress had become apparent. He would recommend him to defer this committee for a time, because he believed that it would be able

to discharge its duties far more satisfactorily when it should be in possession of the result of those experiments; and he thought that the committee would be instituted at a much better time than the present if it were deferred until the period when the renewal of the charter of the East-India Company should come under the consideration of that House. (*Cheers!*) He was quite as anxious as his hon. friend could be to extend those principles of free and unrestricted commerce which he had advocated, as far as the rights of other parties would allow them to be extended. But he did not think this moment was well chosen for carrying into effect the proposed object, because other measures were now in the course of execution, and because it was necessary that the result of those measures should be first seen. To bring this question on now would be to excite and to inflame those anxious alarms which it was his earnest wish to allay; and for that reason, and not because he disliked the principles of his hon. friend, he felt obliged to object to the appointment of this committee.

Lord Milton recommended that the matter should be left to government, which entertained, he firmly believed, sound and wholesome views on the subject.

Sir C. Forbes concurred in this opinion, and recommended the hon. mover to withdraw his motion.

Mr. W. Smith made a few remarks upon the fallacious arguments employed to prove the impolicy of equalizing the duties on sugar. He complained of the distant period to which this question was to be put off. As the name of the Mauritius had been mentioned, he wished to observe, that the increase in the production of sugar was at least sevenfold since we first took possession of that colony. He was quite certain that this increase in the production of sugar could only have been carried on by a traffic in slaves. When we first took possession of the Mauritius, the quantity of sugar produced there amounted to between three and four millions of pounds; the quantity produced last year amounted to between twenty-three and twenty-four millions of pounds. This fact spoke for itself.

Sir R. Farguhar vindicated himself warmly against the unfounded accusations of the hon. gentleman who spoke last. It was acknowledged by the votes of that house, that not an instance of slave-dealing had occurred since the year 1820, with the exception of one single vessel, in 1827, which was burnt. "I then (said Sir Robt.) solemnly pledged to the house that no illicit delarkation had taken place at the Mauritius since that period. I've asserted the same fact in 1826; and I now, in the presence of this house and of the country, am prepared solemnly to declare, that not

a single instance has occurred up to the present day. I beg leave to refer to the hon. secretary of the colonial department for the truth of this assertion, which is vouched in the latest despatches by that distinguished public officer and highly hon. soldier (Sir Lowry Cole). The House will be guided in their judgment by such distinct and authentic information, in preference to the opinions of dissatisfied and discarded officers of the civil government, and to the evidence of perjured soldiers."

Mr. *Fowell Buxton* observed, that with reference to the statement of the hon. bart. he pledged himself to the house to prove, when the proper period arrived, that the slave trade in the Mauritius had been carried on to a great extent, during the government of the hon. bart. He repeated, that he was prepared with satisfactory proofs of this fact, which redounded to the disgrace of those by whom the trade had been suffered.

Mr. *Drougham* congratulated the House on the statements they had heard expressed by the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Huskisson), in which he heartily concurred. He would advise his hon. friend (Mr. W. Smith) to treat a subject like the present in a different spirit than that which he had displayed to-night. There was one point, however, in which he could not agree with the right hon. gentleman, who stated, he remembered, on a former occasion, that the West-Indies derived no benefit from discriminating duties. Now if that position were well-founded, it would at once put an end to the argument. Because if we were to pay a duty of 10s. on West-India produce, and if that duty was no protection to such produce, surely there was no proposal more fair and reasonable than that we should no longer be called upon to pay that 10s. duty, it being admitted that it was of no benefit to any.

Mr. *Wilmot Horton* defended the late Governor of the Mauritius (Sir R. Farquhar), who, he thought, had been unfairly attacked.

Mr. *C. W. Wynn* admitted that, on the grounds of justice and policy, every facility should be given to the admission of our manufactures into the interior of India. Every practicable endeavour was making to extend our commercial relations in the East; and he was happy to state that we had concluded a commercial treaty with Siam. It was not to trade alone that encouragement had been given by the Indian government, but to education and the promotion of knowledge; and he should have the satisfaction of laying shortly before the house some documents on this subject, which would prove the sincerity and the diligence with which these views of the Home government were seconded by the Indian authorities.

Mr. *Whitmore* replied: after what had
Asiatic Journ. Vol. XXIII. No. 138.

been said by the right hon. gentleman he would withdraw his motion, leaving the matter entirely in his hands; but he hoped that the improvements mentioned would not be delayed till the discussion of the renewal of the charter; otherwise he would reserve to himself the right, and it would be not only a right but a duty, to bring the subject again before the consideration of Parliament. (*Hear!*)

May 17.

Administration of the Cape of Good Hope.—Mr. *Wilmot Horton* moved for the production of a series of correspondence between the Colonial Office and Sir Rufane Donkin, respecting the government of Lord C. Somerset.

After a long debate respecting the accusations preferred against Lord Charles by Sir Rufane Donkin, the motion was agreed to.

May 25.

Larceny Laws.—In the committee on the Larceny laws consolidation bill, Mr. *R. C. Ferguson* stated an important fact; namely, that by the repeal of the larceny laws, many of which affected India, and by the re-enactment of such parts as were intended to be retained, without specifically including India, the laws referred to would, he feared, be absolutely repealed as regarded that country.

The following petitions were presented praying for the equalization of the duties on East and West-India produce, and for free trade with India, viz. from Frome, Manchester, Blackburn, Wolverhampton, Leeds, Halifax, Birmingham, Hull and Rochdale.

The following petitions were presented praying for the abolition of the practice of burning widows in the British dominions in India, viz. from Reading, Loughborough, Belfast, Belper and Hinton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NEW COMMISSION FOR THE AFFAIRS OF INDIA.

The King has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, constituting and appointing the Right Hon. C. W. Wynn, Viscount Dudley and Ward, Viscount Goderich, the Right Hon. W. Sturges Bourne, the Right Hon. George Canning, Baron Teignmouth, the Right Hon. John Sullivan, Sir George Warren, Bart., Joseph Phillimore, LL.D., and Sir James Macdonald, Bart., his Majesty's Commissioners for the Affairs of India.—*London Gaz.*

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, May 12. On the 10th instant, in full convocation, the degree of Doctor
5 Y

in Divinity, by diploma, was conferred upon the Rev. John Thomas James, M. A., late student of Christ Church, who has been nominated by the King to the Bishopric of Calcutta.

The reverend gentleman preached his farewell sermon at his late rectory, Flitton, Northamptonshire, on Sunday, April 22d.

Cambridge, May 19. The books presented by this university to Bishop's College, Calcutta, and which have just been sent off, amount to 375 volumes, besides 300 volumes presented by individuals, mostly members of the university. The East-India Company convey them free of expense, and the Lords of the Treasury have remitted the export duty.

TESTIMONIALS TO EAST INDIA-COMMANDERS.

Ship Georgiana. Downs, 2d March, 1827.

To Capt. W. Haylett, comm. *Georgiana*.

Dear Sir: As we are on the point of separating and leaving the *Georgiana*, and that it is not probable we may again be assembled, we now beg to offer you our best thanks for the attention we have received from you during our voyage from India, and to express how much we appreciate your efforts to make the time pass pleasantly.

Trusting that in future days success and prosperity may attend your undertakings, we bid you farewell, and with the best wishes for your happiness, remain your's very truly,

(Signed) H. H. Mackenzie, capt. Royals.

J. A. Trant, lieut. 25th reg.

J. H. Middleton, lieut. Bengal art.

J. H. Macbraire, Madras, Nat. Inf.

W. Harrington, Madras C. S.

Towers Smith, capt. 1d reg. Foot.

Rob. A. Thomas, capt. 4th reg. B. N. I.

John Macdonald, assist. sur. 51 reg. foot.

John Rose, 4th officer *Sir D. Scott*.

J. D. Moir, lieut. 28th reg. B. N. I.

Charles Cook, lieut. 21 N. I.

To Capt. Mackenzie and Passengers of the ship *Georgiana*.

My dear Sir: I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of a kind, and to my feelings, a most welcome letter from yourself and the rest of the gentlemen whom I have had the pleasure of bringing as passengers in the *Georgiana* from India, for which I beg you to accept my best thanks, and, with sincere wishes for the health and happiness of you all, I cordially bid you farewell.

March 3, 1827. (Signed) W. HAYLETT.

To Captain Snell, commanding ship *Lady Holland*.

March 27, 1827.

Sir: We are now rapidly drawing near the close of an unusually protracted voyage; nor can we bid you adieu without thus publicly testifying towards you our high esteem, and the grateful sense which, both individually and collectively, we entertain of the kindness and attention shewn us; no effort on your part has been wanting to contribute to our comfort; no economical considerations have been allowed to interfere with the convenience of your passengers; and notwithstanding the long period that has elapsed since our embarkation at Madras, the greatest abundance, and the best possible material have invariably been met with at your table. However little value may be due to our opinions as to your professional talents, yet, as far as these opinions go, they are such as to secure our entire confidence; and to your unremitting attentions to the duties of the ship upon every occasion, we can and do bear the most ample testimony. That success may attend you in your professional career, and every domestic happiness, is the sincere wish of yours, most faithfully.

(Signed) H. M. Rowley, capt. Madras army.

J. Wilson, do. do.

W. S. Webb, do. art.

H. Stones, do. H.M.'s 13th dragoons.

F. H. Ely, capt. Madras army.

G. Beddingfield, lieut. H.M.'s 41st regt.

H. Harrie, lieut. Madras army.

Rob. Woodgate, capt. H.M.'s 54th regt.

H. P. Pennyfather, do. do. 53th regt.

T. Servel, do. do. 48th regt.

T. Mair, assist. surg. 39th regt.

We also request your acceptance of a piece of plate, as a farther proof of our regard.

To the Passengers of the *Lady Holland*.

Gentlemen: In replying to your letter of this date, I am at a loss for language warm enough to express my feelings, on the handsome manner in which you have thought proper to notice me. That any attentions on my part should have contributed to your comforts individually, affords me the highest satisfaction; and that my public arrangements should have met with your approbation, is also gratifying; the more so as on that point I feel that I have only accorded with the wishes of my employers. I cannot however quit this subject without noticing that an unusually protracted voyage, and the difficulty, if not impossibility of procuring supplies, has obliged me to husband our means much more than would otherwise have been the case.

The piece of plate you have honoured me with is invaluable from the handsome manner in which it is presented to me; and in bidding you farewell, believe me, my sincerest, warmest wishes are for your happiness and prosperity.

Ever most truly your obedient servant,
March 27, 1827. SAMUEL SNELL.

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES IN THE BRITISH ARMY

(SERVING IN THE EAST).

4th L. Dr. J. L. Paxton to be corn. by purch., v. Ogle prom. (19 Apr. 27.)

11th L. Dr. Corn. F. D. George to be lieut. by purch., v. Hare prom. (30 Apr.)

1st Foot. Ens. J. Mayne to be lieut. by purch., v. Ogilvy prom., and J. W. H. Hastings to be ens., v. Mayne (both 12 Apr.); Lieut. Col. J. Carter, from 2d W. Ind. Regt., to be lieut. col., v. Macleod, who exch. (30 Apr.); Ens. W. B. Johnston to be lieut. by purch., v. Fraser prom. (11 Apr.); E. Blackford to be ens. by purch., v. Johnston (30 Apr.); Hosp. Assist. F. Goodwin to be assist. surg., v. Russell, app. to 54th F. (30 Apr.)

2d Foot. Ens. W. N. Ralph to be lieut., v. Robertson dec. (29 Aug. 26); J. Hill to be ens., v. Ralph prom. (21 Oct.); J. T. Hutchings to be ens., v. M'Mahon app. to 87th F. (8 Nov.)

6th Foot. Capt. J. A. Campell, from h.p., to be capt., v. Thomson prom. (15 May).

13th Foot. Brev. Lieut. Col. M. Everard, from 14th F., to be maj., v. Thornhill, who exch. (1 Nov. 26); Capt. N. Chadwick, from 59th F., to be capt., v. Triphook, who exch. (3 Aug.); Capt. G. Fothergill, from h.p., to be capt., v. N. Barrett, who exch., rec. dif. (5 Apr. 27); Ens. T. Graham, from 17th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Howard prom. (27 Apr.); H. N. Vigers to be ens. by purch., v. Moorhouse prom. (12 Apr.); H. Davis to be ens. by purch., v. Sibley prom. (13 Apr.); Lieut. R. Stapleton, from 60th F., to be lieut., v. Croker, who exch. (29 Apr.); Lieut. C. M. Caldwell, from h.p., to be lieut., v. Graham, app. to 42d F. (30 Apr.); J. Darlot to be ens. by purch., v. Davis app. to 62d F. (15 May).

14th Foot. Maj. G. Thornhill, from 13th F., to be maj., v. Everard, who exch. (1 Nov. 26); Capt. B. Whitney, from 44th F., to be capt., v. Alworth, who exch. (16 Sept.); Lieut. C. Dormer, from 31st F., to be lieut., v. Bower, who exch. (18 Oct.)

16th Foot. Ens. W. Ashmore to be lieut. by purch., v. Hyde prom., and Ens. D. U. Urquhart, from 1 W. Ind. Regt., to be ens., v. Ashmore (both 27 Apr.)

20th Foot. Capt. F. Fyans, from 67th F., to be capt., v. Brooke, who exch. (5 Apr. 27); F. M. Fraser to be ens., v. Childe prom. in 46th F. (12 Apr.); Qu. Mast. Serj. P. Connolly to be qu. mast., v. Dodd dec. (19 Apr.); Assist. surg., G. Knox, from Ceyl. Regt., to be assist. surg., v. Wood, whose app. has been cancelled (18 Apr.)

30th Foot. Hosp. Assist. J. K. Adams to be assist. surg., v. Campbell app. to 45th F. (30 Apr.)

31st Foot. Lieut. C. Shaw to be capt., v. Stafford dec. (30 July 26); Ens. A. Shaw to be lieut., v. Hayman dec. (13 Sept.); Lieut. G. J. Bower, from 14th F., to be lieut., v. Dormer, who exch. (18 Oct.); T. Pender to be ens., v. Shaw (13 Sept.)

38th Foot. Lieut. J. P. Sparks to be capt., v. Wilson dec. (4 Sept. 26); Capt. R. Hamilton, from h.p. 1st F., to be capt., v. Fothergill app. to 67th F. (27 Apr. 27); Ens. J. B. Blake to be lieut., v. Sparks, and W. Martin to be ens., v. Blake (both 5 Sept. 26.)

40th Foot. Ens. T. Miller to be lieut., v. Lewis dec. (19 Apr. 27); — Rawlings to be ens. (27 Apr.); H. G. Alsop to be ens., v. Miller (19 Apr.)

41st Foot. Lieut. Col. P. L. Chambers, from 87th F., to be lieut. col., v. Godwin, who exch. (5 Apr.); Lieut. R. Butterfield to be capt., v. Boulton dec. (20 Oct. 26); Ens. J. Arata to be lieut., v. Butterfield (do.); Ens. W. Dyer, from 81st F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Guinnes prom. (5 Apr. 27); W. Morris to be ens., v. Arata (12 Apr.)

44th Foot. Capt. J. B. Ainsworth, from 14th F., to be capt., v. Whitney, who exch. (16 Sept. 26); Ens. G. Douglas, from 65th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Ogilvie prom. (5 Apr. 27).

45th Foot. Lieut. C. Deane, from h.p. 67th F., to be lieut., v. Irwin prom.; Ens. E. T. Coke to be lieut. by purch., v. Reid prom.; and A. Glendening to be ens. by purch., v. Coke (all 26 Apr.)

46th Foot. Lieut. W. Campbell to be capt. by purch., v. Wilcock, who rets. (12 Apr. 27); Ens. W. Jones to be lieut., v. J. Campbell dec. (10 Aug. 26); Ens. E. W. Child, from 20th F., to be lieut., v. Fraser dec. (11 Aug.); Lieut. J. M. McGregor, from 38th F., to be lieut., v. Mahon dec. (1 Oct.); Ens. E. H. D. E. Napier to be lieut., v. Gray dec. (1 Oct.); Ens. E. W. Stibley, from 13th F., to be lieut., v. Simkins dec. (16 Oct.); Volunteer L. Smith, from 41st F., to be ens. v. Jones (10 Aug.); E. D. Day to be ens. v. Johnstone dec. (22 Sept.); W. Green to be ens., v. Napier (11 Oct.)

48th Foot. Ens. A. Erskine to be lieut., v. Nixon dec.; and W. F. Stubbs to be ens., v. Erskine (both 16th Sept. 26).

54th Foot. Ens. F. Parr, from 98th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Dadd, whose prom. by purch. has not taken place (12 April 27).

56th Foot. Capt. T. Triphook, from 13th F., to be capt., v. Chadwick, who exch. (3 Aug. 26); Ens. E. Bolton to be lieut., v. McGregor rem. to 46th F. (1 Oct.); G. B. Hamilton to be ens., v. Bolton (12 Apr. 27).

78th Foot. Ens. J. Macleod to be lieut. by purch., v. Gore prom. (27 Apr. 27); Assist. surg. J. Young, from 50th F., to be assist. surg., v. Thompson app. to staff (12 Apr.); Lieut. E. Macpherson to be capt. by purch., v. Macleod, who rets., and Ens. F. Montgomery to be lieut. by purch., v. Macpherson (both 26 Apr.); J. Burns to be ens., v. Macleod prom. (27 Apr.); A. Huxton to be ens., v. Montgomery (28 Apr.)

83d Foot. Lieut. J. Wynn to be capt. by purch., v. Thomson, who rets.; Ens. J. Kelsall to be lieut. by purch., v. Wynn; and E. D. Visimo to be ens. by purch., v. Kelsall (all 30 Apr.)

87th Foot. Lieut. Col. H. Godwin, from 41st F., to be lieut. col., v. Chambers, who exch. (5 Apr.); Lieut. J. Kennelly to be capt., v. Waller dec. (13 Aug. 26).

88th Foot. Ens. C. Macan to be lieut., v. O'Neill dec. (18 Apr. 27); Ens. J. Graham to be lieut., v. Macleod dec. (19 Apr.); H. T. Griffiths to be ens., v. Macan (do.); W. H. Baynton to be ens. by purch., v. Graham prom. (15 May).

97th Foot. Brev. Mnj. J. Tyler, from h.p. 52d F., to be capt., v. Lynch prom. (27 Apr.); Capt. R. F. Holmes, from h.p. 16th F., to be capt., v. Morris prom. (30 Apr.)

Combin. Regt. Hosp. Assist. G. Rumley to be assist. surg., v. Knox app. to 20th F. (19 Apr.)

23 Dec.; off Penzaure.—May 1. *Hope*, Flint, from Bengal and Madras; off the *Wight*.—2. *Corsair*, Petrie, from Manila 15th Dec., and Singapore 7th Jan.; at Cowes.—3. *Ganges*, Boulbee, from Bengal and Cape; off Brighton.—also *Belle Alliee*, Hunter, from Bengal, Mauritius, and Cape; at Deal.—also *Euphrates*, Scott, from Bengal and Mauritius; off Weymouth.—6. *William Fairlie*, Blair, from China 1st Jan.; *Rival*, Wallace, from Bengal and Cape; *Timander*, Wray, from ditto; and *Britannia*, Ferris, from the Mauritius; all at Gravesend.—7. *Palmyra*, Lamb, from Bengal; at Gravesend.—8. *George the Fourth*, Barrow, and *Earl of Balcarross*, Cameron, both from China; *Melpomene*, Johnson, from Bengal and Madras; and *Sir George Osborne*, Neilson, from Otaheite; all off Dartmouth.—also *Maira*, Hornblow, from Bengal, Madras, and Cape; off Weymouth.—also *Bengal*, Gale, from Sumatra; off Torbay.—9. *Margaret Canfield*, Fox, from China 4th Jan.; off Brighton.—also *Eamouth*, Owen, from Singapore and Cape; off Weymouth.—also *Rhen*, Caupen, from the Mauritius; off Penzaure.—10. *Castle Huntley*, Drummond, from China 28th Dec.; and *Murchione of Elly*, Mangles, from Bengal 15th Jan.; both at Deal.—also *Majist*, Brown, from China 9th Jan.; off Portsmouth. 11. *John Hayes*, Worthington, from Bengal 23d Jan.; at Liverpool.—also *William*, Barney, from Otaheite, at Plymouth.—12. *Corvette*, Hamilton, Doct., from China; off Plymouth.—13. *John Taylor*, Pearce, from Bengal; at Liverpool.—14. *Ganges*, Milford, from Bengal 15th Jan., and Madras 27th, at Liverpool.—15. *Lucia*, Furnell, from the Mauritius; at Gravesend.—17. *Ranagunda*, Kemp, from Bombay 28th Nov., and Cape 8th March; at Gravesend.—also *Mohaba*, Eyles, from Bengal 2d Jan., and Madras 27th; at Deal.—18. *Anna Robertson*, Irving, from Bengal and Cape; off the Lizard.—19. *Orrell*, Farrer, from China 17th Jan.; off Dover.—20. *Prince Regent*, Hosmer, from Bengal; *Faithful*, Short, from ditto; and *Florentia*, Aldham, from ditto; all off Portsmouth.—also *Lambton*, Solihby, from China 24th Jan., off Portland.—also *Miba*, Winslow, from ditto; at Cowes. 22. *Mary*, Nichols, from Bengal 23d Jan., off Portsmouth.—23. *Autore*, East, from Bengal 30th Dec., and Madras 28th Jan.; and *Clanran*, Christie, from Bengal, Madras, and Cape; both at Deal.—24. *Valleyfield*, Johnson, from Bombay; *Boyal George*, Ellery, from Bombay 5th Jan., and Cape; and *William Mowat*, Jackson, from Bengal 19th Jan., and Cape; all at Deal.—also *Britannia*, Lamb, from Bengal and Cape; off Dover.—also *Princess Amelia*, Kennaway, from China 4th Feb.; off Weymouth.—also *Udante*, Stroyan, from Bengal; at Liverpool.—also *Rita-beth*, Cook, from the Mauritius and Cape; at Cowes.—25. *Hibernia*, Gillie, from Bengal and Cape; at Deal.—27. *Roberts*, Curlyan, from Bengal and Cape; off Portsmouth.—also *Upan*, Cushe, Thacker, from Bombay 16th Jan.; off Weymouth.

Departures.

April 26. *Lady of the Lake*, Nichols, for Bengal; *Duke of Sussex*, Whitehead, for China; and *Tolton*, Clarkson, for Bombay; all from Deal.—27. *Bengal*, Atkins, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—28. *Ediza*, Dixon, for Bengal; from Deal.—also *William Young*, Morrison, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—29. *Crown*, Baird, for Bombay; from Greenock.—30. *Alacritia*, Findlay, for N. S. Wales and Anticherry; from Deal.—2. *Wagertree*, Short, for Singapore; from Liverpool.—7. *Kingston*, Bowen, for Madras and Bengal; *Villia*, Stephenson, for Cape and Bombay; *Morning Star*, Gibbs, for Mauritius and Ceylon; and *Cambridge*, Pearce, for N. S. Wales (with convicts); all from Deal.—8. *Tigress*, Sheriff, for Bengal; from Greenock.—9. *Lady M'Naghlin*, Faith, for Madras and Bengal, and *Maintainance*, Cauny, for Bombay; both from Deal.—11. *Dublin*, Stewart, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—12. *Grecian*, Allen, for Madras and Bengal; from Deal.—also *Clede*, Scott, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—also *Wolcott*, Buchanan, for Bengal; from Greenock.—13. *Minerva*, Probyn, for Madras and Bengal; from Deal.—15. *Warren Hastings*, Meson, for Madras and Bengal; from Deal.—19. *Crisis*, Peabody, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—20. *Harmony*, Middleton, for N. S. Wales (with convicts); from Deal.—24. *Katherine Stewart Forbes*, Chapman, for Bombay; *Security*, Ross, for Cape and Madras; *Eliza*, Sutton, for Madras and Bengal; *Valeruth*, Castle,

INDIA SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

April 27. *Greenock*, Miller, from Singapore; at Leith.—28. *Caribbea Castle*, Davey, from Bengal

Castle, John, for Batavia; and *Layton, Lucas*, for V. D. Land (with convicts); all from Deal.

PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

Per Carnarvon Castle, from Bengal: Mrs. Heber, widow of the late Bishop of Calcutta; Mrs. Worrall; Mrs. Mackenzie; Mrs. Petrie; Hon. Sir Anthony Buller, late a judge of the Supreme Court; Calcutta; three Misses Buller, daughters of Sir A. Buller; Col. W. Comyn, 24th N.I.; Col. P. Byres, 20th do.; Capt. Rotherdean, 4th N. Cav.; Lieut. B. Pead, 4th do.; E. S. Smith, Esq., civil service; J. Mackenzie, Esq., merchant; M. Petrie, Esq., do.; W. L. Grave, Esq., do.; two Misses Heber; Misses M'Kenzie, Clarke, and Paton; Masters Bruce, Briggs, Lambert, Petrie, and Mackenzie; 3 European servants; 6 native ditto.—(Miss Catherine Worrall died at sea.)

Per Dorothy, from Bombay: Mr. Mitchell, H.C. marine.

Per Ganges, from Bengal: Dr. Tweedie and four children; Capt. and Mrs. Jervis, and three children; Mrs. Stewart; Mrs. Southall and two children; Capt. J. A. Tween.

Per Corair, from Singapore: Miss Lewis and servant.

Per Hope, from Bengal and Madras: Mrs. Oliver; Mrs. Elderton; Mrs. Cocke and child; Colonel Deacon; Colonel Glover; S. Cleghorn, Esq.; Maj. Elderton; Captains Gordon, Milson, and Ruddiman; Lieuts. Hewson, Berridge, St. John, Sheil, and Milnes; two Misses Tennent; Misses Oliver, Elderton, Milson, and Blundell; two Masters M'Kenzie; two Masters Ferrar; two Masters Milson; Masters Crawford, T. Oliver, Elderton, and Cocke; 4 servants; 30 invalids.—(Master Oliver died on the passage.)

Per Belle Alliance, from Bengal: Mrs. Timbrell and two children; Dr. Ramsay, Esq., assist.surg.; Mrs. Hunter and child; Miss Lawrence; two Masters Campbell.—From the Cape to St. Helena: Colonel and Mrs. Robertson and family, Bombay establishment; Lieut. Col. and Mrs. Agnew and family, Madras establishment; Capt. and Mrs. Lyons, Bombay establishment; Capt. Newport, ditto.

Per William Fairlie, from China: Dr. John Livingstone; Mrs. and Miss Livingstone; J. Ritchie, Esq., merchant; D. S. Napier, Esq., and two children, from Amoy; Colonel and Mrs. Agnew and two children; from St. Helena; Master F. Cunliffe; several servants.

Per Palmyra, from Bengal: Lieut. Col. Druant, Bengal Inf.; Lieut. Mac Murdoch, N.I.; Mr. Percival, H.M.'s 11th L. Dr.; Mr. MacLean; Mrs. Paton; Mrs. Rowe; two Masters Paton; Masters Rowe and Burton; two Misses Rowe; Misses Burton and Ellice.—From Ceylon: Lieut. Col. Walker, dep. adj.gen.; Lieut. Col. Hardy, qu. mast.gen.; S. Sowers, Esq., civil service; G. D. Browne, Esq.; Lieut. Covey, of Engineers; Mrs. Marshall; Mrs. Walker; two Masters Marshall, three Masters Walker; Master Bonstead; two Misses Walker; Miss Selkirk.—(Capt. Paton, Bengal Engineers, died at sea.)

Timandra, from Bengal: Capt. Alex. Grant, 52d N.I.

Per Marchioness of Ely, from Bengal: Hon. Mrs. Lindsay; Mrs. Sands; Mrs. Stevenson; S. Ahmuty, Esq., civil service; W. J. Sands, Esq., ditto; D. M'Farland, Esq., ditto; Hon. F. Howard; Capt. Tomlinson, H.M.'s 11th L. Dr.; Lieut. Neil, 16th Lancers; Lieut. Lowe, ditto; Mr. Fulsher; Misses Mackenzie, Shakespear, Nisbet, Clarkson, and Stevenson; two Misses Lindsay; Masters Clarkson and Shakespear; 8 servants.

Per George the Fourth, from China: H. Batson, Esq., Bengal civil service; Mr. A. E. Reid, writer, from China; Mrs. Wells and child; two Masters Best; two native servants.

Per Marquis Camden, from China: Capt. Mee, country service; Mr. S. Whittaker, assist.surg., Penang.

Per Castle Banch, from China: John Thurston, Esq.; Mrs. M. and Miss May, from St. Helena; Miss Solomon, from ditto.

Per Mervin, from Bengal: Mrs. Pakenham; Mrs. F. W. Russell; Mrs. Macquiboe; Macqueen; Mrs. Gordon; Mrs. Claridge; W. Dent,

Esq., civil service; Lieutenant Colonel Smelt, H.M.'s 41st Foot; Maj. Degraeve, Madras N.I.; Capt. Gordon, Bombay Engineers; Capt. Leslie, H.M.'s 54th regt.; Captain Claridge, Madras N.I.; Lieut. Doveton, Europ. Regt.; Lieut. Bell, N.I.; two Misses Macquiboe; two Misses Smith; Misses Dent, French, Haig, Wilson, Ashton, and Spicer; two Masters Macquiboe; two Masters Alexander; two Masters Turner; two Masters Dent; Masters Pakenham, Steven, Morrat, French, Haig, Ashton, Gordon, and Russell.

Per Earl of Balvarras, from China: Lieut. Col. MacInnes, Bengal service; W. Cracroft, Esq., civil service, Penang.

Per Bengal, from Padang: Mr. Robinson.

Per Cape Packet, brought away from the Isle of Crozet: Capt. Fotheringham, Mr. Linglin, and 13 seamen of the late schooner *Adventurer*, wrecked on the 29th July 1825.

Per Malcolm, from Bengal and Madras: Lieut. Col. Coon, W. Innes, Bengal army; Mrs. E. Innes; Lieut. Col. G. Sargeant, Bengal army; J. Cotton, Esq., collector of Tanjore; J. Goldingham, Esq., superintendent of Madras Observatory; Mrs. Goldingham; Capt. J. V. Fletcher, H.M.'s Royals; Lieut. J. Ogilvy, ditto; Misses Campbell, Innes, Gilbert, and Hitchens; two Misses Bird; two Misses Gordon; two Masters Tweedie; Master Goldingham; invalids, servants, &c.—(Miss Jane Goldingham died off the Cape.)

Per Ganges, (Mitford) from Bengal: Mrs. Lovelace; J. Stephenson, Esq.; Lieuts. Forster, M'Donald, and Bushby; Mr. Alexander.

Per Prince Regent, from Bengal: Mrs. George Swinton; Mrs. Colonel Gall; Mrs. Burney; Mrs. Charter; Mrs. Howard; Mrs. Evans; Maj. Gen. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnwath; Lieut. Col. Com. R. Hetzler; Lieut. Col. M. W. Browne; Surg. A. Hall, cavalry; Capt. T. Hall, H.M.'s 14th Foot; Capt. Burney, H.M.'s 44th do.; Capt. Jas. Charter, N.I.; Lieut. J. J. Peacocke, H.M.'s 50th Foot; Misses Swinton, Nicholson, Mary Howard, Maria Howard, Diana Howard, M. Evans, and G. Evans; Masters Swinton, Gall, Almslie, Forde, Hogg, Stuart, C. Evans, and R. Evans; 7 servants.—(Master J. H. Hallied died at sea on 29th Jan.)

Per Fairlie, from Bengal: Mrs. Graham; Mrs. Short; Mrs. Goate; Miss Silk; Col. Griffiths, Bengal Inv. estab.; Majors Rodbar and Webb, Bengal Artillery; Capt. Goate, H.M.'s 97th Foot; Lieut. Schaleh, 2d Bengal L.C.; Dr. Geo. Playfair, Bengal medical estab.; Misses Short and Griffiths; two Masters Goate; Masters Garmham, Short, Crisp, Scott, and Macqueen; 6 servants.

Per Juncera, from Bengal: Dr. W. Glass, 1st N.I.; Capt. G. Barker, 33d N.I.; Capt. T. Stockwell, 23rd Madras N.I.; Mr. R. Campbell, merchant; Mr. J. W. Mills.—From Madras: Mrs. C. Wilson; Mrs. M. Young; Miss C. Haslewood; Mr. P. MacGovern, surg., N.I.; Capt. J. Weston, H.M.'s 48th regt.; Capt. W. G. White; 53d N.I.; Dr. W. Bruce; Mr. R. Forbes; Conductor J. Anderson; Mr. and Mrs. Wilson; Misses Bruce and Duncan; two Misses Young; three Masters Hawkins; Masters Fallofield, Bruce, and Haslewood; Serj. Forster, 1st Bombay Europ. Regt.; 3 servants.

Per Phœnix, from Bengal: Mrs. Costly; Mrs. Pathy; Mrs. Cox, Mrs. King; Mrs. Bradley; Colonel Blukney; Capt. Horsburgh; Mr. J. Aldham; Lieuts. Johnson, Symes, and G. D. Johnstone; 10 children; 25 invalids; 4 servants.—(Miss A. King died at sea on 6th Feb.)

Per Calcutta, from Bengal: Colonel and Mrs. Whitehead; two Misses Whitehead; Lieut. Bell, Bengal N.I.; Mr. D. M'Ever.

Per Elizabeth, from the Mauritius: Capt. A. Haig, country service; Mr. Smith, late of the *Snipe*—(Mr. Allen, of the country service, died at sea.)

Per Roberts, from Bengal: Lieut. Col. Baddely, 16th N.I.; Mrs. Baddely; Maj. Elliott, 20th N.I.; Mrs. Richardson; Lieut. Daly, H.M.'s 14th Foot; Capt. Osborne, H.M.'s 16th Lancers; Mrs. H. Read; H. C. R. Wilson, Esq.; Mrs. Wilson; Mrs. E. Wadd; D. Hickman, Esq.; D. Sherman, Esq.; Mrs. Sherman; Mrs. Gardner; Capt. and Mrs. Ross; Rev. Mr. Statham; Capt. C. Newman, H.M.'s 14th Foot; Misses Wilson, Massey, Young, Crichton, Graham, 2 Baddely, 2 Read, 2 Morton, 2 Shearman, 3 Ward, 2 Richardson, and 2 Ross;

Ross; Masters Lewis, Caulfield, Bedford, Shearman, Sheriff, Sandys, Studd, Green, Ward, Harrowell, Graham, Richardson, Baddely, Barnes, Lawson, Lyall, Tomkyns, 3 Read, 2 Wilson, 2 Watson, and 3 Masey; 12 servants.

Per Upton Castle, from Bombay: Colonel and Mrs. Shuldham and two children; Colonel and Mrs. Briggs and one child; Maj. Dunsterville and two children; Mrs. Bruce; Mrs. Mackintosh and child; Mrs. MacIntyre; Mrs. Fleetwood; Capt. and Mrs. Payne and two children; Colonel Burford and child; Maj. White, horse artill.; Mr. S. Moore, civil service, and two children; Capt. Cowell, H.M.'s 60th regt.; Mrs. Cowell; two Misses Wilson, daughter of Col. Wilson, Bengal service; two Masters Dunlop; 93 invalids.—(Maj. Gen. Wilson died on the passage.)

PASSENGERS TO INDIA.

Per Minerva, for Madras and Bengal. Capt. A. Inglis, in charge of recruits; Mrs. Inglis; Lieut. A. Taylor, for Madras; Lieut. J. C. Tudor, for Bengal; Cornet French, H.M.'s 11th Drags; L. Clark, Esq., Madras C.S.; Mr. Moran; Messrs. J. H. Sanders and W. Foulcs, free mariners; Mr. H. Ludlow, assist. surg.; Mr. W. F. Rice, free merchant; Messrs C. Beecher, L. Beecher, and H. Beecher; Messrs M. Martin, E. McLeod, P. McLeod, C. Dalrymple, V. Campbell, C. Stirling, Clara Stirling, and C. Anderson; Mrs. Roy and child; several European and native servants.

Per Warren Hastings, for Madras and Bengal: Maj. C. Elphinstone; Mrs. Elphinstone and three children; Mrs. Jane Gray, Messrs. Layard and Barrett, cadets; Mrs. Rose; Miss C. Shaw; Mr. G. Gough, writer; Mrs. Gough; Maj. McLaren; Capt. and Mrs. Harris; Capt. Skirrow, Lieut. Griffith, Lieut. Erskine, Lieut. White, and Ens. Hamilton, H.M.'s 40th regt.; Lieut. Blaquiere, Lieut. Beare, Lieut. Edwards, Ens. Lacey, and Ens. Edmunds, H.M.'s 46th regt.; Ens. Wheatstone, H.M.'s 54th regt.; Ens. Waldron, H.M.'s 30th regt.; 270 troops H.M.'s service.

Per Lady M'Naghlin, for Madras and Bengal: Capt. O'Connor and lady; Mr. Cole, assist. surg.; Mr. Trimlet; Mr. and Mrs. Jones; Messrs. Prescott, Brockman, Turnbull, Sanier, Golding, Paton, Napier, Lloyd, Campbell, Bignell, Blackburn, Nesbitt, Henderson, Anderson, and Loughnan; Miss M. A. Stuart.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

April 24. In Euston Square, the lady of H. Ferguson, Esq., of Calcutta, of a son.

May 4. At his house, in York Buildings, the lady of Col. White, of a daughter.

13. At Blackheath, the lady of R. Boyd, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, of a daughter.

16. The lady of Capt. G. Probyn, of the H.C.'s ship *Minerva*, of a son.

17. In Lower Grosvenor Street, the widow of Hans Sotheby, Esq., late of the Bengal civil service, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

April 17. At Liangollen, North Wales, T. M. Griffith, Esq., of Wrexham, county of Denbigh, to Anne Mary, eldest daughter of the late Capt. T. Robertson, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

26. At Enfield, John Palmer, Esq., to Rose Mary Henrietta, second daughter of the late Lieut. Col. John Riddell.

28. At St. George's, Hanover Square, H. Dawes, Esq., of the Bengal civil service, to Maria, daughter of the late W. Noble, Esq., of Foley Place.

May 10. At St. Clements' Dances, P. Fennings, Esq., to Eliza Sophia, daughter of the late E. Bird, Esq., of St. Mary's, Southampton, formerly a captain in the Bengal infantry.

15. At St. Marylebone New Church, the Rev. H. K. Bunney, D.D., Archdeacon of Bedford, to Charlotte, daughter of the late John Perry, Esq., of Moor Hall, Essex.

19. At Millbrooke, A. Hammond, Esq., of the Inner Temple, to Elizabeth, daughter of the late Ross Moore, Esq., of the Bengal establishment.

DEATHS.

Jan. 12. At sea, on his passage from Madras to the Cape of Good Hope, J. L. Grant, Esq., late Master Attendant at Madras.

Feb. 7. At sea, on board the *Pahynna*, on the passage to England, Capt. J. F. Paton, of the Bengal engineers, aged 30.

24. At sea, on board the *Fairlie*, on the passage home, Col. Garrahan, of the 36th regt. Bengal N.I.

April 21. In the Commercial Road, Capt. W. Jover, of the 64th Bengal N.I., aged 39.

25. At Edinburgh, Mrs. M. Schvez, widow of the late Maj. H. Cumming, 81st foot.

27. At Park Place, Regent's Park, Hans Sotheby, Esq., of the Bengal civil service, and second son of W. Sotheby, Esq., of Sewardstone, Essex.

29. At Walworth, Mary, relict of Mr. John Browne, senior associate engraver of the Royal Academy, aged 70.

May 4. In Jermyon Street, P. Denmiss, Esq., late captain on half-pay of 41st foot.

7. At Grove Cottage, St. John's Wood, Wm. Tait, Esq., formerly Superintending Surgeon at Madras, in his 64th year.

13. In Montague Square, Anna, daughter of the late G. Harper, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

16. At his house on Blackheath Hill, J. Walker, Esq.

20. At Highgate, Frances, wife of H. Johnson, Esq., of the East-India House.

— On his passage home, Lieut. J. S. Webb, late of the Bombay artillery, third son of R. H. Webb, Esq.

22. Capt. J. C. Lambie, late of the Bengal cavalry, aged 33.

— At Gunnersbury Park, Ealing, Major Alex. Morison, of the Bengal service, in his 63th year.

— Late. At sea, on board the *Upton Castle*, on the passage home, Maj. Gen. Samuel Wilson, of the Bombay army.

— On board H. M. S. *Warpsite*, at Sydney, New South Wales, Commodore Sir James Brisbane, C.B., late commanding his Majesty's ships in the East-Indies.

GOODS DECLARED FOR SALE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

For Sale 4 June—Prompt 31 August.

Ten.—Bohea, 850,000 lb.; Congou, Campol, Pekoe, and Souehong, 5,350,000 lb.; Twankay and Hyson-Skin, 1,300,000 lb.; Hyson, 200,000 lb.—Total, including Private-Trade, 7,700,000 lb.

For Sale 12 June—Prompt 7 September.

Company's.—Bengal, Coast, and Surat Piece Goods.—Damaged Bengal and Coast Piece Goods.

Private-Trade.—Piece Goods.—Longcloths—Salampores—Blue Salampores—Blue Cloths—Nankeens—Blue Nankeens—Bandannoes—Yellow Bandannoes—Madras Handkerchiefs—Muslins—Corahs—Choppah Romals—Cotton Romals—China Silk Piece Goods—Wrought Silks—Damasks—

Velvet—Shawls—Crapes—Crape Dresses—Crape Shawls—Crape Handkerchiefs.

For Sale 18 June—Prompt 5 October.

Company's.—Bengal Raw Silk.

Private-Trade.—China and Bengal Raw Silk.

The Court of Directors have received a letter from the Honourable Board of Customs, stating that—"It having been represented to the Board, that many of the overtime, sold under authority of the Treasury Order of the 23d July 1825 still remain in the Company's Warehouses uncleared, the Board request the necessary measures may be taken for the disposal thereof, as well as the Camphor,

phor, Lac Lake, Lac Dye, Red Wood, or Red Saunders, imported up to the 31st Dec. 1815, and of all other Goods imported up to the 5th July 1821, which have continued warehoused longer than allowed by law.—The Court have therefore given notice, that, in pursuance of the above communication, they are preparing lists of all Goods, and falling within the above description now in the Company's Warehouses, and when such lists are completed the Court will fix a Day or Days for the sale or other disposal thereof, of which due notice will be given.

CARGOES of EAST-INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS lately arrived.

CARGOES of the *William Fairlie*, *Earl of Balcarra*, *Catla Huntly*, *King George the Fourth*,

Marquesa Casuden, *McFatt*, *Orwell*, *London*, and *Princess Amelia*, from *China*; the *Palmyra*, *Marchioness of Ely*, *Prince Regent*, *Katolie*, *Claveline*, *William Money*, *Florentina*, *Roberts*, and *Ganges*, from *Bengal*; and the *Malcolm*, from *Bengal* and *Madras*.

Company's.—Tea—Bengal Silk Piece Goods—Madras Piece Goods—Raw Silk—Cotton—St. Helena Wool—Indigo—Refined Saltpetre—Sugar.

Private Trade and Privilege.—Tea—Raw Silk—Silks—Blue Nankeens—Tortoiseshell—Ivory—Ivory Ware—Mother o' Pearl Beads—Mother o' Pearl Knife Handles—Combs—China Root—Dragon's Blood—Soy—Paper—Bamboo Blinds—Yellow and Black Bamboo—Fishing Rods—Rattans—Whanghees—Mats—Floor Mats—Lacquered Ware—Wine—Madeira—Sherry.

List of the Directors OF THE UNITED COMPANY OF MERCHANTS OF ENGLAND, TRADING TO THE EAST-INDIES, FOR THE YEAR 1827.									
<p>HON. HUGH LINDSAY (Chairman), M.P. 22, Berkeley Square. JAMES PATRISON, Esq. (Deputy), 37, Southampton Row, Bloomsbury. George Smith, Esq. M.P. 1, Upper Harley Street. Edward Parry, Esq. 25, Gower Street. Sweny Toone, Esq. 44, Mortimer Street. Wm. Astell, Esq. M.P. 4, Portland Place. John Bebb, Esq. 13, Gloucester Place. Campbell Marjoribanks, Esq. 3, Upper Wimpole Street. William Wigram, Esq. M.P., 50, Upper Harley Street. John Morris, Esq. 21, Baker Street. Robert Campbell, Esq. 5, Argyll Place, Argyl Street. John Goldsbrough Ravenshaw, Esq. 9, Lower Berkeley Street. Josias Du Pre Alexander, Esq. M.P. 66, Grosvenor Street. Neil Benjamin Edmonstone, Esq. 49, Portland Place. John Loch, Esq. 18, Upper Bedford Place, Russell Square. Charles Elton Prescott, Esq. 34, Charles Street, Berkeley Square. Charles Mills, Esq. 29, New Norfolk Street. John Baillie, Esq. M.P. 9, Devonshire Place. John Masterman, Esq. Nicholas Lane, Lombard Street. John Petty Muspratt, Esq. 9, New Broad Street. Sir R. T. Farquhar, Bart. M.P. 2, Richmond Terrace, Whitehall. Henry St. George Tucker, Esq. 3, Upper Portland Place. James Stuart, Esq. M.P. 63, Portland Place. James Rivett Carnac, Esq. 21, Upper Harley Street.</p>									
Years to serve	1	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Accounts									
Buying and Warehouse									
Civil College									
Correspondence									
Hours									
Law Suite									
Library									
Military Fund									
Military Seminary									
Private Trade									
Shipping									
Treasury									

THE FOLLOWING GENTLEMEN ARE OUT BY ROTATION :

Henry Alexander, Esq. M.P. 37, Upper Harley Street.
William Stanley Clarke, Esq. Elm Bank, Leatherhead.
R. C. Plowden, Esq. 8, Devonshire Place.

George Raikes, Esq. Fulham.
Sir George Abercrombie Robinson, Bart. 73, Pall Mall.
John Thornhill, Esq. 8, Cornwall Terrace.

EAST-INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS, of the Season 1826-27, with their Managing Owners, Commanders, &c.

Voyage.	Ships.	Tons.	Managing Owners.	Commanders.	First Officers.	Second Officers.	Third Officers.	Fourth Officers.	Surgeons.	Purser.	Consignments.	To be Afford.	To be Greened.	To be in the Bottom.	When Sailed.
8	Bridgewater	1276	James Sims	J. R. Manderson	W. H. Walker	C. Pennington	David Home.	John Hayward	W. Spry	Joseph Cragg	Bombay & China	1826.	1826.	1827.	1827.
9	Louther Castle	1427	Matthew Isacke	Thomas Baker	G. K. Bathie	J. Wilkinson	G. J. Thompson	C. Hawkins	{ J. H. Blen- nerhasset }	Benj. B. Lord	{ St. Helena, Bom- bay, & China. }	14 Nov	20 Nov	4 Jan.	4 Jan.
10	Atlas	1267	Charles O. Mayne	John Hine	Hen. Bristow	T. G. Adams	J. F. Vaux	John Domett	Robt. Murray	Jos. W. Cragg	{ St. Helena, Bom- bay, & China. }	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.	21 do.
11	Repulse	1324	John F. Timins	C. B. Gribble	Edw. Foord	A. C. Watling	J. F. Wainwright	Godfr. S. Hunt	Wm. Scott	Nich. G. Glass	Bombay & China	17 do.	30 do.	17 do.	17 do.
12	Duke of York	1327	S. Marjoribanks	Robert Locke	Geo. Ireland	F. Mac Neill	J. Thomson	Dudley North	David Allan	Wm. E. Brown	{ St. Helena, Bom- bay, & China. }	20 do.	31 do.	21 do.	21 do.
13	Hersfordshire	1200	John Locke	J. C. Whitman	Robert Card	Wm. Robson	B. J. Thomson	J. R. Lancaster	Richard Boyes	Edw. Crowfoot	Bombay & China	18 Feb.	18 Feb.	18 Feb.	18 Feb.
14	Versittart	1200	John Locke	W. H. L. 1111	Hen. Edmunds	John Rickett	A. H. Crawford	Henry Denny	J. W. Wilson	Rich. Rawes	Bombay & China	14 Dec	28 do.	3 Feb.	6 do.
15	Buckinghamshire	1363	Company's Ship	Rich. Glaspoole	W. Longcroft	Alex. Bell	James Crozier	Henry Cayley	A. Johnstone	R. G. Lancaster	Bombay & China	22 do.	22 do.	22 do.	22 do.
16	Southey Castle	1242	Company's Ship	David R. Newall	John Hillman	Peter Plicher	Thos. Alchin	T. Packman	Wm. Hayland	Wm. Bruce	Bombay & China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
17	Charles Grant	1246	William Moffat	William Hay	Joseph Coates	C. A. Eastmore	C. Hen. Leaver	Arthur Burnell	Robt. Strange	Fred. Palmer	Bombay & China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
18	Hythe	1333	S. Marjoribanks	John P. Wilson	R. Lindsay	R. Jobling	Jacks Sparrow	C. Johnstone	R. Alexander	G. R. Griffiths	Bombay & China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
19	Ingia	1282	R. Borradaile	Samuel Setle	J. Dudman	Wm. B. Coles	James Mowat	R. John Garnar	John Lawson	R. Middlemass	Bombay & China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
20	Windsor	1368	R. George Clay	Amb. F. Proctor	Wm. MacNair	Thos. Thoms	Mark Clayton	R. E. Warner	Joseph Docker	Jas. Thomson	Bombay & China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
21	Forquharoon	1336	John C. Lochner	W. Cruickshank	Henry Cowan	George Lloyd	James Walker	J. G. Murray	James Bruce	D. Grassick	St. Helena, Pen- ang, Singapore, and China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
22	Bombay	1342	Henry Templer	John Charrette	H. Clement	George Wise	H. S. Isaacson	Thos. Foss	Wm. Westcott	Robert Miles	Bombay & China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
23	General Kyd	1240	James Walker	Alex. Nairne	Richard Alpin	H. Thomson	A. C. Barclay	W. Mackenzie	F. P. Allyn	David Clark	Bombay & China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
24	Waterton	1335	Company's Ship	Wm. Nanning	W. R. Blakeley	G. T. Calvey	Fred. Hedges	John Tate	Jas. Halliday	John Benford	Bombay & China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
25	Duke of Sussex	1340	S. Marjoribanks	W. H. Whitehead	Wm. D. Orr	G. C. Burthout	Bazil W. Mure	C. Mac Itee	John Sim	C. D. Stinson	China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
26	Kalle Castle	1372	Geo. Reed	W. H. Ladd	R. Patullo	J. Serrouche	Francis West	W. S. Stockley	John Cullen	J. C. Sinclair	China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
27	Micraea	1376	George Palmer	George Probyn	Jas. Drayton	Chas. Ingram	A. Tudor	J. I. Buchanan	Wm. Chanter	Chas. Reynell	Bombay & Bengal.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
28	Pr. Chart. of Wales	978	C. B. Gribble	Henry Gribble	C. W. Franchin	Nath. A. Knox	Wm. Toller	C. H. Barnes	W. H. Hunt	Wm. Cragg	Bombay & Bengal.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
29	Warren Hastings	1000	John L. Minet.	George Mason	T. A. Davis	C. S. Bawtree	C. H. Winbolt	John Campbell	Geo. Graham	Wm. Cragg	Bombay & Bengal.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
30	Merc. Wellington	901	Henry Bonham	Alfred Chapman	R. B. Shiltler	John Sparke	W. Lidderdale	John Duncan	Wm. Whitton	Fran. Jenkins	Bombay & Bengal.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
31	Thomas Grenville	885	Company's Ship	Charles Shea	J. B. Burnett	Robt. Robson	Wm. Taylor	Aug. Crumston	Adam Elliot	Joseph Adams	Bombay & Bengal.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
32	Barron	730	Buckles & Co.	H. Hutchinson							China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
33	Alfred	716	Fraser, Living & Co.	J. Pearson							China	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
34	Broomfield	751	Alfred Chapman	Thos. Fewson							China & Quebec	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
35	Lord Hangerford	737	J. L. Heathorn	Wm. Heathorn							China & Hailfas	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
36	L	647	J. S. Jones	W. Campbell							Bombay	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
37	Parma	443	J. Jones	J. Wimble							Ditto	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
38	Childe Harold	403	R. Granger	W. W. West								18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
39	Napier	643	J. Cumberlege, Ju.	J. A. Cumberlege								18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.
40	Lord Mettelle	425	H. Nelson	H. Brown								18 do.	18 do.	18 do.	18 do.

CHARTERED for ONE VOYAGE.

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PRICE CURRENT, May 29.

EAST-INDIA PRODUCE.								
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.		
Coffee, Java	cwt.						Galls, Blue. cwt.	
— Cheriton	2	4	0	—	2	15	0	
— Sumatra	2	0	0	—	2	5	0	
— Bourbon							Indigo, Blue and Violet lb	
— Mocha	3	0	0	—	6	0	0	
Cotton, Surat	lb	0	0	5	—	0	6	
— Madras		0	5	—	0	0	6	
— Bengal		0	5	—	0	0	6	
— Bourbon		0	8	—	0	0	11	
Drugs & for Dyeing.								
— Aloes, Epatica	cwt.	16	0	0	—	21	0	0
— Anniseeds, Star								
— Borax, Refined	2	4	0	—	2	5	0	
— Unrefined, or Tincal	2	5	0	—	2	6	0	
Camphire	8	10	0	—	10	0	0	
Cardamom, Malabar. lb	0	10	6					
— Ceylon		0	1	4				
Cassia Buds	cwt.	7	0	0	—	7	5	0
— Ligna	5	5	0	—	5	10	0	
Castor Oil	lb	0	0	6	—	0	1	6
China Root	cwt.	1	10	0	—	2	0	0
Coculus Indicus		3	0	0				
Dragon's Blood		5	0	0	—	21	0	0
Gum Ammoniac, lump.		3	0	0	—	5	0	0
— Arabic	1	10	0	—	3	10	0	
— Asafoetida	6	0	0	—	8	0	0	
— Benjamin	2	0	0	—	50	0	0	
— Aniomi	3	0	0	—	8	0	0	
— Gambogium	30	0	0	—				
— Myrrh	3	0	0	—	3	0	0	
— Oilbanum								
Kino	14	0	0	—	16	0	0	
Lac Lake	lb	0	1	0				
— Dye		0	4	2				
— Shell	cwt.	2	10	0	—	5	0	0
— Stick	2	0	0	—	3	0	0	
Musk, China	oz.	0	10	0	—	0	15	0
Oil, Cassia		0	0	5				
— Cinnamon		0	9	0	—	0	10	0
— Cloves	lb	0	1	3	—	0	1	6
— Mace		0	0	2	—	0	0	3
— Nutmegs		0	2	9	—	0	3	0
Opium								
Rhubarb		0	2	0	—	0	5	6
Sal Ammoniac	cwt.	3	5	0				
Senna	lb	0	0	9	—	0	2	0
— Bengal	cwt.	1	12	0	—	1	16	0
— China		1	10	0				
Galls, in Sorts		4	0	0	—	4	10	0

AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.								
Oil, Southern	tm	30	0	0				
— Spermac		67	0	0				
— Head Matter		75	0	0				
— Wool	lb	0	2	0	—	0	5	0
Wood, Blue Gum	ton	0	7	10	—	0	8	10
— Cedar		0	0	4	—	0	0	5

AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.

Oil, Fothern tun	30	0	0
— Spermac 67	0	0	0
— Head Matter 75	0	0	0
— Wood lb	0	2	0
— Wood, Blue Gum ton	0	7	10
— Cedar 0	0	4	—

DAILY PRICES OF STOCKS,

From the 26th of April to the 25th of May 1827.

April.	Bank Stock.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	N4 Pr. Ct. Ann.	Long Annuities.	India Stock.	India Bonds.	Exch. Bills.	Consols. for Acc.
26	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	19 1-16 1-8	247	67 68p	43 45p	83 1-8
27	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	19 1-16 1-8	—	68 69p	44 43p	83 1-8
28	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	19 1-16 1-8	—	70p	44 45p	83 1/8
29	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	19 1-16 1-8	—	—	—	83 1/8
30	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	19 1-16 1-8	—	70 71p	44 45p	83 1/8
May											
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	203 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	18 15-16 1-8	245	70 72p	45 46p	83 1-8
3	203 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	18 15-16 1-8	244 245 1/2	71 72p	46 40p	83 1-8
4	203 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	18 15-16 1-8	—	73 75p	47 40p	83 1-8
5	203 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	18 15-16 1-8	244 1/2	73 75p	47 40p	83 1-8
6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	203 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	18 15-16 1-8	243 1/2	74p	46 40p	83 1-8
8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	75 76p	47 40p	83 1-8
9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	203 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	18 15-16 1-8	244 245 1/2	76p	48 40p	83 1-8
11	203 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	18 15-16 1-8	—	76p	48 40p	83 1-8
12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	73 75p	46 40p	83 1-8
13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	18 15-16 1-8	—	76 77p	47 40p	83 1-8
15	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	18 15-16 1-8	245	76 77p	48 40p	83 1-8
16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	76 77p	48 40p	83 1-8
17	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	18 15-16 1-8	244 1/2	78 79p	49 40p	83 1-8
18	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	18 15-16 1-8	—	77p	48 40p	83 1-8
19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	76 77p	48 40p	83 1-8
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	76 77p	48 40p	83 1-8
21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	76 77p	48 40p	83 1-8
22	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	18 15-16 1-8	245 1/2	76 77p	49 40p	83 1-8
23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	76p	48 40p	83 1-8
24	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	19 1-8	246	79 80p	52 55p	84 1-8
25	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	19 1-8	246	79 80p	52 55p	84 1-8

I N D E X.

A.

- Abel* (Dr.), notice of his death, 669.
- Accident*, distressing, at Calcutta, 83—on the river near Allahabad, 84—several in the Hooghly, 388—on the river, near Howrah, 672.
- Acheenese*, treachery of, 631.
- Actors*, Hindoo, exhibiting in Calcutta, 513.
- Admiralty Court*—Question of bottomry respecting the ship *Atlas*, 176, 408—suit for wages brought by a mariner against the owner of the ship *Minstrel*, 298—action for wages brought by the purser of the ship *Lady Campbell*, 299.
- Africa*, account of Lieut. Col. Denham's mission to the Coast of, 250.
- Agricultural Society* of Calcutta—meeting of, in August, 374.
- Agricultural and Horticultural Society* of New South Wales—meetings of, in August and October, 661.
- Agriculture*, questions respecting the various methods of, prevalent throughout India, 479.
- Aindie* (Dr. W.), review of his *Materia Indica*, 57.
- Alexander* (Lieut.), review of his *Travels from India to England*, 649.
- Algoa Bay*, account of, 287.
- Alligator*, fight between and a tiger, 852.
- America*, trade of, with China, 682—right of, to trade with Singapore, *ib.*
- Amherst* (Lord), departs on a tour to the Upper Provinces, 83—particulars of his tour, 524, 669, 846—death of his eldest son, 387—receives the thanks of the East-India Company for his exertions during the Burmese War, 99—also for his conduct in regard to Bhurtpore, 134—dignities of Viscount and Earl granted to, 177.
- Anecdote*, Hindoo, 374—of the present Shah of Persia, 512.
- Antimony* found in large masses in Borneo, 63—singular property in, 664.
- Apologues* from Sadi, 253.
- Arable periodical* about to be started in France, 500.
- Army* (Indian), suggestions for the improvement of its system, 7—vote of thanks passed at the East-India House to the portion recently employed against Ava, 84—also to those employed against Bhurtpore, 134—thanked by Parliament 880, 881—honorary distinctions conferred on officers and corps, 302—important arrangements submitted to Government by Lord Lake for improving the condition of the Bengal troops, 312—donation to the forces lately employed against the Burmese, 385—answer to an attack against the character of the native troops in the *Monthly Review*, 461—alterations required in the medical branch of the service, 207, 339, 499—review of Capt. Badenach's work on the state of the army, 500—general orders issued to; also promotions in: see *Calcutta*, *Madras*, &c.
- (British) serving in the East, promotions and changes in, 178, 303, 410, 587, 688, 886—furloughs of officers from, 76, 523, 667—vote of thanks passed to the portion of, engaged in the late war, 98, 134, 880—honorary distinctions conferred on officers and men belonging to, 302, 410—courts-martial on officers in, 530, 676, 857.
- Arracan*, journey across the mountains of, 14—medical topography of, 249, 508—account of the diseases that prevailed in the provinces during the late campaign, 508—ancient history of the kingdom, *ib.*
- Arras*, or *Araxes*, Shakspearian bridge over, 513.
- Asiatic Society* of Great Britain and Ireland—proceedings of, in December, 60—January, 257—February, 407—March, 514—April, 686, 688—May, 831.
- of Calcutta—proceedings of, in July, 61—September, 507—November, 657—January, 833.
- of Paris—meeting of, 834.
- Assam*, observations of Capt. Neufville on the geography and population of, 62—account of a native history of, 507—roads in, 854.
- Atmospheric Tides*, theory of, 345.
- Attornies*, Calcutta, particulars respecting, 264.
- Australia*—see *New South Wales* and *Van Diemen's Land*.
- Australian Agricultural Company*, annual general meeting of, 300.
- Ava*—product of our territories in, 848—see also *Burman Empire*.

B.

- Baber* (Emperor), review of the *Memoirs of*, 234—his description of the Hindus, 256.
- Badenach* (Capt.), review of his *Inquiry into the State of the Indian Army*, 500.
- Ball* given at *Muttra*, 266—at *Poonah*, 395—at *Calcutta*, 526—at *Bombay*, 539.
- Bankrupt Laws* in British India, inquiry respecting, 80.
- Barrackpore Mutiny*, the subject of, brought before the proprietors at the *East-India House*, 168—discussed in *Parliament*, 523.
- Batavia*—see *India* (*Netherlands*.)
- Bejapoor*, account of the great gun at, 65.
- Bell*, great, at *Rangoon*, described, 658.
- Benevolence*, on the *Organ of*, in animals, 63.
- Bengal*, inquiry respecting the revenue system of, 632.
- Bengalee Literature*, proposal for publishing a work on, 837.
- Bennet* (Lieut.), murdered near *Jaulnah*, 273.
- Bhote Mehals*, memoir on the, 657.
- Bhurtpore*, services performed by the column under Lieut. Col. Wilson at the capture of, 66—treasure discovered in the fortress, 83—vote of thanks passed at the *East-India House* to the troops employed in the late siege, 134—particulars of Lord Lake's attack upon the place, 197—honorary distinctions conferred on the officers and corps employed during the late operations, 302—political arrangements at, 386—vote of thanks in *Parliament* to the troops employed in the siege, 880, 881.
- Births*—see *Calcutta*, *Madras*, &c.
- Bismuth* and *Antimony*, singular property in, 664.
- Blume* (Dr.), notice of his return from *Java*, 377.
- Bombay Government* (General Orders of)—rules to be observed in selecting officers for engineering, 272—designation of Brigadier Quarter-Master to forces in *Cutch* changed, *ib.*—formation of the 25th and 26th regiments of Native Infantry, 537—rules for the examination of the junior civil servants of the Company, 644—price of soldiers' discharges, 676,—court-martial, 676—civil, ecclesiastical and military appointments, 92, 272, 391, 537, 679, 866.
- Bombay* miscellaneous and shipping intelligence, births, marriages, and deaths, 92, 273, 395, 539, 679, 870.
- *Supreme Court*—refusal of the judges to register the new press regulation, 293, 309—indictment brought by the Rev. Mr. Davies against Capt. Miller for a libel, 392—observations of the chief justice on some alleged misstatements in the *Bombay Courier*, 491—charge to the Grand Jury, 866—case of *Amerchund Beederchund v. the East India Company*, 867.
- *Auxiliary Bible Society*, annual meeting of, 539.
- *Marine*—debate on the subject at the *East-India House*, 549—proposed alteration in, 687.
- Borneo*, survey of, 240.
- Bowring* (John), review of his translations of *Servian Poetry*, 606.
- Brahmaputra*, visit to the supposed source of, 495.
- Bruce*, strictures on the 'Travels' of, 5—his manuscripts exposed for sale, 836.
- Bryce* (Dr.), misstatements regarding him corrected, 452.
- Bucharia* (Great), death of the Khan of, 287—geographical and statistical details respecting, 601.
- Buckingham* (Mr.), particulars of Capt. McNaghten's dispute with, 22, 229.
- Buddinath Roy*, entertainment given by, 249.
- Buddhism*, remarks on, and on the expediency of commencing a national collection of the *Birman* manuscripts, 361.
- Buddhoo*, *Singhalese* account of, 25—colossal statue of, received at *Calcutta* from *Ava*, 252—opinions on the era of, 782.
- Burman Empire*—account of its commerce, 64—god-burials, 252—adventures of a *Burman* Roscius, *ib.*—glossary of *Burman* titles, 253—manners of the *Burman* females, 256—population of *Rangoon*, 268—architecture, 376—characters of the court of *Ava*, 510—mission of Mr. Crawford to *Ava*, 451, 546, 685—commotions in *Pegu*, 547—account of *Moulmein*, *ib.*—marauding bands, 548—description of the great Bell at *Rangoon*, 658—account of the diseases there, 659—insurrection of the *Taliens*, 685, 877—evacuation of *Rangoon* by the British, 877.
- Burmese War*—thanks of the *Madras Government* to the troops employed during the campaign, 66—fleetilla orders issued by Commodore Sir Jas. Brisbane on the termination of hostilities, 257—vote of thanks passed at the *East-India House* to the army employed during the contest, 98—observations on the occurrence, course, and consequences of the war, 290—honorary distinctions conferred on officers and corps employed during the war, 302—donation of *batta* to the troops so employed, 385—difficulty of the *Burmese* to raise the second instalment, 451—vote of thanks in *Parliament*

ment to the army and navy employed in, 880, 881.

Bushire, dispute between the Sheikh of, and the Imaum of Muscat, 401, 625.

C.

Cadets, Colonel Macdonald on the education of, 38—observations from the Indian papers upon a recent debate on the same subject, 82, 396—Dr. Gilchrist's services with respect to their education, 360, 489, 634.

Calcutta Government (General Orders of)—formation of a desertion fund, 74—alteration in the punishment of deserters, *ib.*—additional superintending surgeons sanctioned, *ib.*—donation to the troops recently employed in the Burmese territory, 385—Lord Combermere nominated Vice-President in Council, 518—rules to be observed by Europeans visiting the Upper Provinces, *ib.*—relief of troops, *ib.*—alterations in the pioneer corps, *ib.*—reduction of local corps, 519—indulgence to assist. surgeons, *ib.*—distribution of the Off-Reckoning Fund, 665—reductions in the artillery, *ib.*—passage-money to England of officers' widows, *ib.*—courts-martial, 259, 841—civil, ecclesiastical, and military appointments, 74, 386, 519, 665, 842.

Calcutta, arrival of treasure at, 83—improvements in, 672, 848—money market at, 855—shipping intelligence, births, marriages, and deaths, 77, 266, 386, 524, 846, 856.

—Supreme Court—present state of practice in, with respect to attorneys, 264—action against C. M. Pratt, an American, for debt, 76—trial of Akoonchy, Tankung, and others, for theft, 262—prosecution of Rammohun Day, Rammohun Sircar, and others, for a conspiracy to extort money under false pretences, *ib.*—sentence on Rammohun Sircar, 76—prosecution of Joseph Warn for forgery, 265—trial of Ramgovind Mundul for perjury and attempts to extort money under false pretences, *ib.*—remarks of the Chief Justice on the subject of the new Jury Act, 523, 667—trial of W. E. Hall, and others, for fraud, 522—trial of three Portuguese for the murder of an English sailor, 524—prosecution of Radamohun Ghose for perjury and extortion, 668—sentence passed on the criminals convicted at the sessions, *ib.*—proposed reduction of attorneys, 844—decision of questions respecting property, 845—rules established by the court in pursuance of the Juries in India Act, *ib.*

—Asiatic Society, proceedings of, in July, September, November, and January, 61, 507, 657, 833.

—Medical and Physical Society,

proceedings of, in July, August, September, October, November, and December, 249, 373, 508, 658, 833.

Calcutta Agricultural Society, meeting of, in August, 374.

—Club, plan for, 850.

Canton—see *China*.

Cape of Good Hope—murder of a missionary, 287—account of Algoa Bay, *ib.*—tax upon newspapers, 288—opinion of the Lord Commissioners on the present state of the currency in the colony, 405—the press, 874—ecclesiastical appointment, 410—births, marriages, and deaths, 239.

Cargoes of East-India Company's ships lately arrived, 180, 590, 763, 890.

Carnac (J. R.), elected an East-India Director, 587.

Ceylon, attempts made to discover the ancient history of, 342—judicial improvements in, 807—the sacred and historical books of, preparing for the press, 838—civil appointments, 93, 870—elephant shooting, 93—address from the Church missionaries of Colombo to Bishop Heber, 274—answer of the Bishop to the address, 275—arrival of Sir Hudson Lowe, 398—remarks on the Chank fisheries on the coast, 499—subscription for erecting a tablet to the memory of the late Bishop Heber, 540—facts relative to the mineral productions of the Tangalle district, 661—criminal sessions, 680—Mr. Sawers, 870—regatta at Trincomalee, *ib.*—progress of Christianity, 871—births, marriages, and deaths, 94, 540, 681, 871.

Chalmers (Maj. Gen. J. M.), memoir of, 819.

Champollion (M.), remarks by, on the new hieroglyphical system of Messrs. Spohn and Seyffarth, 212.

Chank-Fishery of Ceylon, remarks on, 469.

Chetuba, sickly state of our troops at, 269, 387.

Child-murder, cases of, numerous at Calcutta, 269.

China, statement relative to the consumption of opium in, 40—account of Mang-hau-jen, the Chinese poet, 222—different names used throughout the empire, 226—description of the Chinese festival of the new year, 251—state of the markets and exchanges at Canton, 283, 544, 685, 874—disturbed state of the country, 474—American trade with, 682—Chinese novels, 789—M. Klaproth on the names of, 815—superstition, 837—industry of Chinese cultivators, 839—fire at Canton, 874.

Chunar, masonic lodge opened at, 269.

Cinnamon plant smuggled by the Dutch from Ceylon, 282.

Civil Appointments—see *Calcutta, Madras, &c.*

Civil Service Annuity Fund of Bengal, public meeting of, 269.

Clapperton (Capt.), accounts from, 250.

Coals, further discovery of, in India, 387.

Colabah, gaieties at, 869.

Colonization in the East, suggestions respecting, 340.

College, East-India, at Haileybury, examination at, in Dec. 1826, 68.

— East-India Military, half-yearly examination of, 70.

— of Fort St. George, examination at, in June 1826, 71—address of the Hon. the Governor to the students of, 73.

— of Fort William—minute recorded by Lord Amherst on a review of the proceedings of the institution for 1825-26, 378—names of students examined at, in June, 384—works patronized by the College Council, 517.

— Serampore, extract from the sixth report of, 79.

— Hindoo, at Calcutta; progress made by the young men at, 848.

Combermere (Lord) thanked by the East-India Company for his services at Bhurtpore, 134—dignity of Viscount granted to, 177—nominated Vice-President and Deputy-Governor of Fort William, 518—thanked by both houses of Parliament, 880, 881.

Coombs (J. M.), letter from, on the theory of the atmospheric tides, 345.

Courts-Martial on Ensign F. Cookney, 259—Ensign J. D. King, 260—Apothecary J. Hamilton, 261—Major Paterson, 530—Lieut. Berwick, 531—Lieut. Colonel Boyse, 532—Lieut. M'Kenzie, 676—Lieut. A. T. Lloyd, 241—Lieut. Fothergill, 857—Ens. Gibbs, 858.

Court of King's Bench—Colvin and others, v. Newbury, to recover the value of certain articles shipped in the *Benson*, 299—Eastwick, v. Thornton, to recover payment for a passage from China, 408.

Court of Common Pleas—Johnston, v. Pope, for an assault, 408—Fairlie, v. Parker, for the value of certain goods forwarded from India to England, 586.

Crawford (Mr.) departs on a mission to the Court of Ava, 451, 546—his reception at Ava, 685.

D.

Damaun, grand entertainment given at, by the Governor, 273.

Deaf and Dumb, contemplated formation of a school for, at Serampore, 527.

Deaths—see *Calcutta, Madras, &c.*

Debate at the East-India on 13th Dec. 1826. Rumoured recall of Lord Amherst, 97—thanks to Lord Amherst and the army employed against Ava, 98—

19th Dec. Thanks to Lord Amherst and the army employed against Bhurtpore, 134—20th Dec. Dividend, 156—shipping system, *ib.*—qualifications of military and medical officers, 163—attendance of directors, 164—military and medical vacancies in India, 166—mutiny at Barrackpore, 168—7th Feb. 1827. Instruction in the Hindoostance language, 413—assistant surgeon at Chatham, 440—the press in India, 442—war between Russia and Persia, *ib.*—burning of Hindoo widows, *ib.*—Bombay marine, *ib.*—14th March. Bombay marine, 549—Mr. Bosanquet, 568—Indian patronage, *ib.*—burning of Hindoo widows, *ib.*—21st March. Assistant-surgeon at Chatham, 569—boards in India, *ib.*—the press in India, *ib.*—war between Russia and Persia, 581—burning of Hindoo widows, 689—22nd March. Attendance of directors, 696—burning of Hindoo widows, *ib.*—30th March. Proposed thanks to Mr. Marjoribanks, 735—thanks to Mr. Bosanquet, 743—patronage of the directors, 748—attendance of the directors, 753—sale of writerships, cadetships, and other Indian appointments, 761.

Deccan, view of the judicial system in, 320—opinions on the early history of the country, 353—present state of the British territories in, 613, 773.

Deccan Prize-Money, distribution of, 177.

Directors, East-India, for 1827, 890.

Drama of the Hindus, specimen of, 48.

Dugong, skeleton of, brought to England, 512.

Durbar held at Calcutta, 80.

Durga Puja, celebration of, 671.

E.

Earth, experiments made respecting the flattening of the, 662.

Earthquake at Hyderabad, 79—in Nepal, 672—at Calcutta, 855—at Burdwan, *ib.* at Vizigapatam, 864.

Education, progress of, amongst the natives in India, 852.

East-India House, debates at, 97, 413, 549, 689—goods declared for sale at, 180, 305, 414, 590, 762—election of a director at, 587, 688.

Egypt—account of the viceroy of, 254.

Egyptian hieroglyphics, remarks on, 212.

Elphinstone (Governor), entertainment to, at Poona, 867.

Eras used in the Mahratta country, 62—opinions on that of the Buddhas, 782—in Hindostan, 839.

Exchanges, rates of, at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, 175, 404, 548, 685, 877.

F.

Fu-kwa-ki, a Chinese work, notice of, 376.
Food,

Food, price of, in the Roman Empire, 834.

G.

Gaieties at Muttra, 266, 536—in the Bow Bazaar at Calcutta, 526—at Bombay, 539.

Ganges, form of praise offered to, 63.

General Orders by the Indian Governments—see *Calcutta*, *Madras*, &c.

Gilchrist (Dr.), opinions on his claims with respect to the education of cadets, 82, 396, 360, 429, 634—offers himself as a candidate for the East-India direction, 410—his complaint against the misrepresentations of the *Oriental Herald*, 642.

Goods declared for sale at the East-India House, 120, 305, 411, 590, 762, 889.

Governor General of India (Lord Amherst), particulars of his tour to the Upper Provinces, 23, 524, 668, 846—speculations as to his probable successor, 409, 687.

Grammar, Bengalee, published by Ram-mohun Roy, 83.

Greece, conduct of England respecting, 47—remarks on the proposed recognition of its independence, 218—conduct of the Greek Committee, 600.

Gulistan of Sadi, apologues from, 253—review of a Persian edition of, 372.

Gun at Bejapoor described, 65.

II.

Haileybury College, examination of the students at, in December 1826, 68.

Hamasa, notice of Dr. Freytag's edition of, 200—odes from, 202.

Hamauts at Bombay, their insolent conduct, 396.

Harvey Islands, particulars of, 223.

Hastings (Marquess), glance at the eventful life of, 3.

Haughton (Prof.), review of his edition of the *Manava-Dherma-Sastra*, 237.

Hay (Mr.), particulars of his complaint to the East-India Company against Mr. Wollen, judge of Purneah, 348.

Heber (Bishop), amount subscribed at Madras for erecting a monument to, 91—extract from his letter to the head of the Syrian Church of Malabar, *ib.*—interesting passages in his answer to an address from the Church Missionaries of Colombo, 275—extracts from his MS. letters to a friend, 481—tablet to be erected to his memory at Colombo, 540—subscription opened at Oxford for erecting a monument to, 688—letter from, respecting Christianity in Ceylon.

Hermaphrodite, account of, 638.

Hieroglyphics, Egyptian, remarks of M. Champollion on Messrs. Spohn and Seyffarth's system of, 212.

Himalaya Mountains, notices of various metallic products of, 61.

Hindoo drama, 48—*anecdote*, 374—*Suttees* 356, 409, 689, 696—judicial oaths, 475, 671—actors, 513—ceremony, 672—College at Calcutta, 848.

Home Intelligence, 178, 298, 408, 583, 686, 880.

Hooghly, accidents in, 328, 672—correction of the longitudes in, 673.

Hospitals for animals in India, 375.

Hyderabad, meeting of the creditors of Palmer and Co. at, 525.

Hydrophobia, successful treatment of, 660.

I.

Idolatry, folly of, 65.

India, on the progress of inquiry into the learning of, 30, 189—first visit of the Portuguese to, 143—ecology on, 254—mineral products of, 374—hospitals for animals in, 375.

India (British)—on smuggling from, 8—considerations on the future government of the country, 27—question respecting the bankrupt laws of, 80—opinions of the home periodical press respecting the Indian Government, 181—alterations required in the medical service, 207, 339, 499—honorary distinctions conferred on officers and men employed during the late war, 302—explanation of a sentence in Capt. Badenach's work on the state of the Indian army, 312—inquiry as to the practicability of an invasion by a land expedition from Europe, 323—donation to the troops recently employed against the Burmese, 385—further discovery of coals, 387—arrival of a portion of the second Burmese instalment at Calcutta, 404, 546—speculations respecting the appointment of a new governor-general for, 409, 687—opinions on the trial by jury in, 453—questions respecting the agricultural systems of, 479—extracts from Bishop Heber's MS. letters on the actual state of the country, 481—improvement amongst the natives, 527—report on the present state of our territories in the Deccan, 613, 773—*inquiry* respecting the revenue systems of Bengal and Madras, 632—progress of education amongst the natives, 252—British commerce with, 765.

India (not British)—operations of Runjeet Singh against the Afghans, 77, 386, 526, 671, 847—accounts from Scindia's territories, 78, 387, 847—arrangements at Bhurtapore, 386—affray between the troops of Scindia and those of Appah Sahib, 387—attempted assassination of Mir Khan by an Afghan, *ib.*—government arrangements at Jey pore, 672, 848—hostilities

hostilities amongst the Afghan chiefs, 661.

India (Netherlands)—operations of the Dutch forces against the natives in the interior of Java, 95, 281, 400, 543, 548, 684, 872—impositions of a new duty on gambier in Java 277—notes on the project of law and memorial published at the Hague in Nov. 1825 respecting the embarrassments of the government, 278—reduction of interest at Batavia, 279—further observations on the financial embarrassments of the Dutch, 280, 542—introduction of the cinnamon plant into Java, smuggled from Ceylon, 282—renewal of hostilities against the Dutch in Celebes, 283, 399—coronation of the restored Sultan of Djocjocarta, 542, 684—disputes in the Government, 543—notice to navigators, *ib.*—re-trenchments, 683—monopoly of the Dutch Company, 681—tax on official persons at Batavia, *ib.*—superstition of the Chinese in Java, 637.

India (Spanish)—state of trade at Manilla, 278, 544—Chinese ordered out of the country, 545.

Indigo, state of the crops in Bengal in July, 84—comparative statement of the quantity made in the different districts in Bengal in 1825 and 1826, 85.

Inkumation, voluntary, 269.

Insolvent Debtors' Court—petition of Thomas Shepherd for his discharge, 408.

Interpreters, examination of, 388.

Inundations in India, 327.

Isle of France, numerous French colonists exiled from, 287.

J.

Jackall, hunt after, 396.

James (Rev. J. T.) appointed Bishop of Calcutta, 687.

Java—see *India (Netherlands)*.

Jeypore, new administration of affairs at, 670, 848.

Johanna, arrival of the King of, at Bombay, 681.

Johnston (Capt.), grant to, 855.

Johore, account of the tin mines of, 64.

Jugunnat'h, hints for removing the tax upon pilgrims visiting the temple of, 270—account of the ceremonies performed at the temple, 701.

Juries (Native), meeting at Madras respecting, 862.

Jury, on the trial by, in British India, 453.

K.

Karmath, an Arabian tale, review of, 826.

Keppel (Capt.), review of his Narrative of a Journey from India to England, 649.

Klaproth (M.) on the names of China, 815.

Kurtakul, or ancient Hindu princes of Madura, history of, 9.

L.

Labour, price of, in the Roman Empire, 834.

La Perouse, probable discovery of the fate of, 625.

Limjre Cawajee, splendid ball and supper given by, at Bombay, 539.

Literature, eastern, on the causes of the neglect of, in Europe, 464.

Longitude, improved method of determining, 507—correction of, in the Hooghly, 673.

Lotteries, petty, increasing at Calcutta, 267.

Lowce (Sir Hudson) arrives at Ceylon, 398—work about to be published by, 510.

Lushington (Mr.) appointed governor of Madras, 301—dines with the East-India Directors, 687.

Lyall (Dr.) appointed agent and physician at Madagascar, 587.

M.

Macdonald (Colonel) on the education of cadets, 38—suggestions by, respecting the study of Sanscrit literature, 352.

McNaghten (Capt.), particulars of his dispute with the editor of the *Oriental Herald*, 22—copy of his second reply to Mr. Buckingham's slanders, 229.

Madras Government (General Orders of)—thanks to the troops recently employed against Ava, 66—officers' house-rent, 86—Dooly corps, 87—regulation of officers' staff allowances, *ib.*—alteration in the allowances to officers holding artillery commands, 270—donation to the troops recently employed against the Burmese, 385—formation of the 51st and 52d regiments of native infantry, 535—treasure escorts, 674—strength of native regiments, 675—uniform of the new regiments, *ib.*—courts-martial, 531, 857,—civil and military appointments, 87, 390, 533, 859.

Madras, inquiry respecting the revenue system of, 632—native juries at, 862—shipping intelligence, births, marriages, and deaths, 90, 272, 390, 536, 675, 865.

—Supreme Court—presentment of the grand jury at the commencement of the sessions, 89—observations of Sir R. Comyn on the new jury act, 861.

—Apprenticing Society, first report of, 675.

Madura, history of the Kurtakul, or ancient Hindu princes of, 9.

Mahabuleshwar Hills, notice respecting, 92.

Mahmoud Ali, viceroy of Egypt, account of, 254.

Mahrutta,

- Mahratta Country*, opinions on the early history of, 353.
- Malacca*—establishment of a newspaper at, 278—directions for navigating the straits of, 399—civil appointment, 400—union of this settlement to Penang, 541—declared a free port, 673—proposed improvements in the town, 682—births, marriages, and deaths, 95, 278, 682.
- Malcolm* (Sir John) appointed governor of Bombay, 301.
- Mang-haou-jen*, the Chinese poet, account of, 222.
- Manilla*—see *India* (Spanish).
- Manuscripts*, Pali and Cingalese, received in France, 835—of the traveller Bruce exposed for sale, 836.
- Manwaring* (Commodore), notice of his death, 274.
- Marine* (Bombay) debate respecting, 549 proposed alteration in, 687.
- Markets* in London, 305—at Canton, 283, 544, 685.
- Marriages*—see *Calcutta*, *Madras*, &c.
- Martucci* (M.), return of, to Rome, 687.
- Masulipatam*, hurricane at, 675.
- Mauritius*, regulation respecting slaves at, 548—account of the numerous isles and islets dependent upon, 635—seizure of a Portuguese vessel at, 683.
- Mazagon Mills*, explosion at, 540.
- Mazellan*, a new trading port in South America, account of, 542.
- Medical Service* in India, alterations required in, 207, 339, 499.
- Medical and Physical Society* of Calcutta, proceedings of, 249, 373, 508, 658, 833.
- Mercer and Co.*, failure of the house of, 548.
- Meteorite Stone*, fall of, near Kadonah, 834.
- Military Appointments*—see *Calcutta*, *Madras*, &c.
- Military Retirement-Fund*, proposal for the formation of, at Calcutta, 527.
- Minutoli* (Baroness), review of her Recollections in Egypt, 504.
- Mismecs*, account of the, 798.
- Moharam*, disturbances at Bombay during the festival of, 539.
- Monk* (Capt.), rumoured murder of, 850.
- Monteith* (Capt.), Persian order presented to, 410.
- Moorcraft* (Mr.), mistakes of the daily papers respecting, 365.
- Moreau* (C.), review of his Chronological Records of the British Navy, 830.
- Mrichchakati*, a Hindu drama, extracts from, 50.
- Mummy*, examination of, 512.
- Munipore*, account of, 250.
- Munro* (Sir Thos.), tour of, through the Madras provinces, 390, 536, 675.
- Minder* of a child at Calcutta, 269—of Lieut. Bennet near Jaulnah, 273—of a missionary at the Cape of Good Hope, 287.
- Muscat*, dispute between the Imaum of, and the Sheikh of Bushire, 401, 685.
- Musselmans*, zeal of, in the cause of their religion, 267.
- Muthoornauth Mullick*, liberality of, 269.
- Mutiny* on board the *Sarah* Indiaman, 589, 688.
- Mutra*, gaieties at, 266.
- N.
- Nautch* at Bombay, 93.
- Nautical Notices*—discovery of a reef near Penang, 543—of a new shoal in the China seas, *ib.*—circumnavigation of Ramree, 835.
- Navigation* between Great Britain and Asia, 799—proposed improvements in, at Calcutta, 849.
- Neelgherry Hills*, phenomenon observed at, 836.
- New South Wales*—formation of a chamber of commerce at Sydney, 96—change in the currency, *ib.*—scientific expedition, 509—new penal settlements, 545—government regulation for the granting and sale of lands, *ib.*—measures recommended for putting a stop to the molestations of the aboriginal inhabitants, *ib.*—discovery of a new river, *ib.*—account of St. Vincent County, 546—meeting of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society, 661—shipping intelligence, births, marriages, and deaths, 96.
- Newspapers* (Indian native), extracts from—operations of Runjeet Singh against the Afghans, 77, 386, 526, 671, 837—accounts from Scindia's territories, 78, 387, 837—earthquake at Hyderabad, 79—arrangements at Bhurtpore, 386—hostilities amongst the Afghans, 671—political arrangements at Jeypore, 670, 848.
- New Zealand Prince*, arrival of, at Calcutta, 673.
- Niger*, its supposed course, 250.
- Northern Expedition*, accounts from, 838.
- O.
- Oaths*, judicial, amongst the Hindus, review of a tract on, 475—further remarks on the subject, 670.
- Ochterlony* (Sir D.), his proceedings against Bhurtpore debated on at the East-India House, 136.
- Opium*, consumption of, in China, 40—sales at Calcutta, 84—markets at Canton, 283, 544, 685.
- Oriental Club* at Bombay, 93.
- Oriental Literary Society* of Calcutta, report of, 268, 854.

Oriental Literature, opinions on the causes of the neglect of, in Europe, 464.

Oriental Herald, particulars of Capt. M'Naghten's dispute with the editor of, 22, 229—complaint of Dr. Gilchrist against, 642.

Oxler (Capt.), notice of his death, 179.

Otaheite, visit of Spaniards to, in 1774, 664.

P.

Pali, or sacred language of the Buddhists, notice of a work on, 663—manuscripts received in Paris, 835.

Palmer and Co. of Hyderabad, meeting of the creditors of, 523.

Panwell bridges, 869.

Parliament, debates in—petition from William Parker, a settler at the Cape of Good Hope, 583—mutiny at Barrackpore, *ib.*—appeals from India, 686—thanks to the army and navy employed in the late war in India, 880, 881—East India trade, 882—Cape of Good Hope 885—petitions, *ib.*

Parliamentary Paper—State of the currency of the Cape of Good Hope, 405—East India accounts, 878.

Passengers of ships to and from India, 178, 303, 410, 588, 761, 888.

Penang—complaint against the gaols, 94—arrival of the new Recorder, 398—change in the garrison, 541—naval etiquette enforced, *ib.*—union of Singapore and Malacca to this settlement, *ib.*—declared a free port, 673—present state of the island, 681—arrival of Mr. Prince, 871—duties and regulations, *ib.*—trade, 872—King of Quedah, *ib.*—appointments, births, marriages, and deaths, 94, 541, 681, 871.

Persia—progress of the war with Russia, 95, 283, 400, 544, 548, 684, 873—arrival of the British embassy under Col. Macdonald, 96, 651—obligations imposed upon England by our treaty with Persia, 285—rapidity of Persian post-horses, 377—anecdotes of the present Shah, 512—declaration of the Shah, 873.

Persian Gulf—dispute between the Imam of Muscat and the Sheikh of Bushire, 401, 685, 873—attack on the Pasha of Bagdad, 873.

Phrenology—on the organ of benevolence in animals, 63—substance of Dr. Paterson's lecture at Madras, 90.

Piracy in the Gulf of Cutch, 679, 870.

Pitcairn's Island, present state of the inhabitants upon, 289.

Poetry—the Poet and the Nightingale, 21—the Taj Mahal, 26—Epigram, 42—the Vices of Time, 196—the Sutte, 200—Fame, 211—Sonnet, 322—lines on the Ruins of Rajmahal, 351—Home, 467—epistle from the King of Ava to the Emperor of China, 478—the Dew,

490—specimens from the Servian, 608—to Rosa, 648—verses from the Chinese, 781—distich from the Anwari Sohaili, 806—Epigram, *ib.*

Polynesia—robbery at the island of Oahu, 289—state of the inhabitants upon Pitcairn's Island, *ib.*—visit of Spaniards to Otaheite in 1774, 664.

Pompeii, further discoveries at, 377.

Poonah, ball given at, 395.

Portuguese, account of their first visit to India, 43.

Potails, observations on, 786.

Powder Mills, explosion of, at Mazagon, 540.

Press (Indian)—remarks on the Court of Directors' order to extend the Calcutta regulation to Madras and Bombay, 272—refusal of the King's judges at Bombay to register the regulation, 293—observations on the subject of their refusal, 309, 569—the editor and proprietor of the *Bombay Courier* threatened with fine and imprisonment, 491—threatened punishment of the *Bengal Chronicle*, 670—interest taken by Government in the circulation of the Native prints, 851.

Price Current of East-India produce for January, 307—February, 412—March, 592—April, 764—May, 892.

Proverbs, Arabian, origin of, 375.

Publications, new, and works in the press, 258, 517, 832.

Punchayets, official return respecting, 468.

R.

Races at Bombay, plan of, 540—at Calcutta, 852.

Ramnad, titles of the rajah of, 221—historical account of the principality, 646.

Ramree, circumnavigation of, 835.

Rangoon—see *Burman Empire*.

Regatta at Trincomalee, 870.

Revenue, inquiry respecting the systems of, in Bengal and Madras, 632.

Review of Books—Ainslie's *Materia Indica*, 57—Memoirs of Zehir-ed din Muhammed Baber, Emperor of Hindustan, 234—Haughton's edition of the *Manava-Dherma-Sastra*, 237—Snodgrass's narrative of the Burmese War, 242—Bell's edition of Rollin's *Ancient History*, 248—Sketches of Persia, from the Journals of a Traveller in the East, 366—Persian edition of the *Gulistan*, or *Rose Garden*, 372—Badenach's Inquiry into the State of the Indian Army, 500—Minutoli's *Recollections of Egypt*, 504—Bowring's translation of Servian Popular Poetry, 606—Alexander's *Travels from India to England*, 649—Keppel's *Personal Narrative of a Journey from India to England*, *ib.*—Atkinson's translation of *La Secchia Rapita*, 655—Iu-kiao-li, a Chinese Novel,

- novel, 769—Timkowski's Travels in China, 822—Karmath, an Arabian tale, 826—Poynder's Speech at the East-India House on the subject of Human Sacrifices in India, 829—The Adventures of Naufragus, *ib.*—Moreau's Chronological Records of the British Navy, 830.
- Robberies at Bombay, 395—at Madras, 675.
- Rollin's Ancient History, by Bell, review of, 248.
- Roman Empire, prices of labour and food in, 834.
- Runjeet Singh, account of his operation against the Afghans, 77, 386, 526, 671, 847.
- Russia—progress of the war against Persia, 95, 283, 400, 544, 548, 684, 873—proclamation of General Yermoloff to the inhabitants of Georgia, 284—view of the politics of Russia and Persia, 285—Russian voyage of discovery, 63—government resolutions respecting marriages of Asiatics with Russian subjects, 687—saint worship, 836.
- Ryan (E.), honour of knighthood conferred on, 178.
- Ryotwar System, extracts from the Code of the Sultan of Mysore respecting, 821.
- S.
- Sadi, apologues from the Gulistan of, 253.
- Sauers (Mr.), leaves Ceylon, 870.
- Say (M.), errors in his dissertations upon Indian affairs, 35—remarks by, on M. de Sismondi's New Principles of Political Economy, *ib.*
- Scindia, account of his movements, 78, 387, 847.
- Securities, Indian, prices of, 175, 404, 548, 685, 877.
- Sepoys, prowess of, 513.
- Serampore, extract from the sixth report of the college at, 79.
- Servian Poetry, specimens of, 606.
- Shipping, notices of—loss of the *East-Indian* on Saugor Sand, 81—loss of the *Bombay Merchant* in the Bengal river, 85—launch of the *Sussex* at Deptford, 178—loss of the brig *Sun* in Torres Straits, 179—loss of the *Britannia* in St. Helena Bay, *ib.*—loss of the Dutch ship *Wassenaar* on the coast of Holland, 301—conduct of Capt. Rous in regard to the H.C. cruiser *Antelope*, 541—loss of the *Marmion* in the Bay of Biscay, 589—mutiny on board the *Sarah*, 589, 688—losses at sea of the *Aurora*, *Edward Stretell*, *Java Packet*, and *London*, 589—massacre on board the *Tonga*, in the mouth of the Irrawuddi, 675—atrocious attempt of the Acheense to cut off the *Futteh Ellojah*, 681.
- Asiatic Journ., Vol. XXIII. No. 138.
- Ships trading to India and eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, 180, 306, 443, 590, 763—East-India Company's of the season 1826-27, 307, 444, 591, 891—building at Bombay, 589—Arab, sailing under British colours, 388.
- Siam—account of Capt. Burney's mission to Bankok, 95, 399, 543—deputation from the King to the Rajah of Trin-ganu, 277.
- Si Badang, legend of, 254.
- Sickness at Cheduba, 269, 387—at Kaira, 395.
- Singapore—arrival of trading junks from Siam and Cochin China, 94—value of ship masts in China, *ib.*—alterations in the currency, 276—trade with Pedier, *ib.*—entertainment given by the Raffles Club, 277—Catastrophe on board the *Caledonia*, *ib.*—practicability of the passage through New Harbour, 278—appointment of a new resident, 398—trade with China, *ib.*—arrival of Sir Ralph Rice, *ib.*—non-arrival of Buggis prahus, 399—directions for navigating the Straits of Malacca, *ib.*—union of this settlement and Malacca to Penang, 541—entertainment to Mrs. Crawford, 682—right of Americans to trade with Singapore, *ib.*—eclipse of the moon, 683—importation of tin, *ib.*—sticklac, *ib.*—condition of the settlement, 872—Singapore Institution, *ib.*—births, marriages, and deaths, 95, 278, 683.
- Slavery in the east, considerations on, 445, 593.
- Smuggling from India, 8.
- Snake, curious incident of, 267—remedy for the bite of, 512.
- Snake Stone, remarks on, 657.
- Snodgrass (Maj.), review of his narrative of the Burmese war, 244.
- Societies—Asiatic, of Great Britain and Ireland, 60, 257, 407, 514, 686, 831—Asiatic, of Calcutta, 61, 507, 657, 833—Royal, of Literature, 62—London, for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, 176—Medical and Physical of Calcutta, 249, 373, 508, 833—Oriental Literary, 268, 854—Calcutta Agricultural, 374—Zoological, of London, 509, 661, 834—Auxiliary Bible, of Bombay, 539—Literary, of Ceylon, 661—Agricultural and Horticultural of New South Wales, *ib.*—Asiatic, of Paris, 834.
- Stamp duty about to be imposed at Calcutta, 849.
- Stanhope (Col.), correction of his mis-statement regarding Dr. Bryce, 452.
- St. Helena—regulations for the regimental libraries, 401—military appointments and promotions, 401, 874—address delivered by the Governor on laying the foundation stone of the observatory on 6 A

- Ladder Hill, 402**—utility of the Benefit Society lately established in the island, 403—emancipation of slaves, 875.
- Steam Navigation*—grant to Capt. Johnston, 855.
- Stocks*, daily prices of, for January, 307—February, 412—March, 592—April, 764—May, 892.
- Storm*, violent, in the Madras provinces, 536.
- Sugar*, derivation of the word, 536—directions for clarifying that produced in the East-Indies, 374.
- Sumnat*, the Hindoo idol, account of its demolition, 255.
- Superstition* of the natives of India, 268—of the Chinese in Java, 837.
- Suttees*, remarks on the attempts now making to put a stop to the practice, 356—petition of the inhabitants of York against, 409—description of one near Calcutta, 526, 671—testimonies of the ancients regarding the custom, 621—debate on the subject of, at the East-India House, 689, 696.
- T.**
- Tallipot Tree*, leaf of, brought to England, 65.
- Tauffreville* (Gen.), biographical notice of, 390.
- Tavoy*, small settlement formed at, 79.
- Tellicherry*, government proclamation respecting the port of, 90.
- Theatre*—amusements at Chowringhee, 80, 526, 672, 859—revival of amateur performances at Madras, 91—amusements at Bombay, 273, 869—native performances at Calcutta, 513.
- Thibet*, description of a temple in, 840.
- Tiger*, fight between, and an Alligator, 852.
- Timber*, Indian, strength of, 663.
- Timkowski* (G.), review of his travels in China, 822.
- Tin Mines* of Johore, account of, 64.
- Tippoo Saib*, misrepresentations respecting the sons of, 850.
- Tritchendoor*, legend of the Hindu temple at, 201, 317.
- V.**
- Van Diemen's Land*—arrival of ships at, 96.
- Vase*, curious, found at Teshire, 377.
- Vepery*, examination of schools at, 864.
- W.**
- Weather* in the Mofussil in July, 79—at Madras, 536, 675.
- Widows*, Hindoo, petition of the inhabitants of York against the burning of, 409—debate on the subject at the East-India House, 689, 696.
- Woods*, Indian, relative strength of the different, 663.
- Wright* (Ens.), reported murder of, 386, 526.
- Wynn* (Mr.), prize writership given by, to the boys of the Westminster school, 409.
- Y.**
- York* (Duke of), notice of his death, 301—sale of Oriental armour belonging to, 836.
- Younah Mountains*, journal of a route across, 209.
- Yüh-keau-le*, tale of, 789.
- Z.**
- Zendavesta*, account of the, 376.
- Zoological Society* of London, proceedings of, 509, 661, 834.

END OF VOL. XXIII.

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